Commissioner Riordan called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m. Members present were Commissioners E. Brunson, T. Khero, K. Riordan, and A. Rubalcava. Commissioner K. Metz was absent.

1. **REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER**

   General Manager, Sharon Morris, reported as follows:

   A. **Action Item Status Reports:** The following items are scheduled for the Public and Safety Committee in August: Rabbit Fee Increase, Pocket Pets Fee Increase, Animal Welfare Trust Fund, Animal Sterilization Trust Fund.

   Public Safety waived hearings on the Acceptance of Donations of $25,000 by the General Manager and sent the item to City Council.

   B. **Interviews:** Interviews for Emergency Volunteer Coordinator were conducted. It is anticipated that in four to six months a permanent coordinator will be selected.

   C. **PetsMart Rescue:** The Department is working with PetsMart to have them transport animals to other shelters that need them. PetsMart will be doing the transportation, Commander Diliberto will provide a further report on this at the next meeting.

2. **COMMISSION BUSINESS**

   A. Commissioner Rubalcava made a motion to approve the minutes for the meeting of July 12, 2004, Commissioner Khero second. Motion passed unanimously.

   B. **Meetings/Events Attended:** There were no events or meetings attended.
C. Consideration of Future Agenda Items: No items for future consideration at this time.

Public Comment

Scott Sorentino, Animal Alliance – Would like the Commission to ask the Department to instruct the City Attorney to make a ruling on the unaltered license fee charged to humane organizations.

3. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

A. Elections for Board President & Vice-President of the Board of Animal Services Commissioners

After four votes, Commissioner Riordan was elected as Commission President in a three to one vote.

Commissioner Rubalcava was elected as Vice-president in a unanimous vote.

B. Pursuant to an order of the Los Angeles Superior Court, in Parisi v. City of Los Angeles, et.al., BS 088937, the Commission will review its December 8, 2003 decision on the record, including appeal arguments, and prepare a new decision setting forth each of the factual and legal bases for its dismissal of the General Manager’s decision and remand for a hearing in this matter.

After a discussion on the case between the Commissioners and the City Attorney, Commissioner Rubalcava made a motion to accept the General Managers decision on the case with the modification that the barking collar requirement be removed. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Khero, motion passed unanimously.

The Commissioners based their decision on the written testimony and description from the witnesses in the case.

Public Comment

Daniel Guss: Expressed his displeasure with the absence of Commissioner Metz.

C. Update: Spay/Neuter Voucher Program: Ms. Carbajal provided an explanation on the following sterilization programs: Discount Coupons, Free Certificates, Spaymobile, Senior/Disabled, and Pilot Feral Program

Public Comment

Phyllis Daugherty, Animal Issue Movements – Rescuers sell dogs, even though they call it an adoption. The price charged includes the cost of sterilization. Rescuers should not be using the taxpayer’s money to sterilize their own animals.

Daniel Guss, Stand Foundation – To ensure the Veterinarians are not gouging the general public; a flat rate should be instituted for the sterilizations.

Scott Sorrentino, Rescue and Humane Alliance – A solution with redemption is communication. Have a meeting between the Department and the organizations that use the books to explain the rules and regulations.

Please join us at our website: www.LAAnimalservices.com
Sue Taylor, Actors and Others - Thanked the Department for having Discount Coupons. It is important to stay as they are. Most veterinarians on the list do not care if they get a coupon or not, they either sign up for the programs or not.

Pamelyn Ferdin – Department needs to do more work in reaching the community regarding the free sterilizations, many residents do not know about the program. Veterinarians gouge the public.

D. Memo: Follow-up on Attacks on Guide Dogs: This item was carried over to the August 9 commission meeting when Commander Diliberto could be present.

GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDS FOR BOARD ACTION

NONE

4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - (Comments from the public on items of public interest within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction.)

Daniel Guss, Stand Foundation – Discussed various employees and why they were being considered for promotions. Had a great experience with an ACT at the East Valley Shelter.

Scott Sorrentino, Rescue and Humane Alliance – Objects to the $100 unaltered license fee and tax. Would like another discussion with the City Attorney to review the language he submitted. The license fee and tax was not being charge to rescuers a year ago, it has just recently been enforces. Charging $100 prevents rescuers from rescuing sick and injured animals refunds take to long. Request the Commission to direct the General Manager to stop charging rescue organizations the fee.

Phyllis Daugherty, Animal Issues Movement – Jim Connelly’s retirement was a loss to the Department. Councilmen are serious in dedicating an Animal Cruelty Unit. Earcropping bill is going through the legislature. 14 children since October have been either mauled or killed by dogs on chains.

Susan Taylor, Actors and Others for Animals – Upset 20/30 vouchers were not raised to 30/40, unfair to dogs. The new coupons are still not available. Ask the Department to keep statistics on cats and dogs that use discount coupons.

Jeff Fleiss, United Animal Rescuers and Doggy TV – Listed the shelters his has visited. Will be creating a timeline on the various issues and suggestions from City of Los Angeles constituents from the footage he has been shooting at the commission meetings. Kiosk in SLA shelter not working. Phone system refers to the SLA shelter as South Central. There are no signs on Crenshaw or Jefferson indicating where the SLA shelter is. Would like City to work with Santa Monica shelter.

Pamelyn Ferdin – Contacted the veterinarian association regarding the veterinarians who gouged her and was told it was not the standard of care to add the additional charges. Veterinarians should not be adding on various charges to sterilizations. More children are injured or die in one month from playing sports or riding their bicycles than in a whole year or 10 years from a dog bite or mauling. No animals should be on a chain. The City should have a law that prevents animals from being on chains.

Please join us at our website: www.LAAnimalservices.com
5. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjoined at 10:48 a.m.