



ANIMAL SHELTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, February 26, 2026 at 1:00 PM
101 E. Enon Avenue Everman Texas 76140

AGENDA

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

2. INVOCATION

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes

Animal Shelter Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes 12-15-2025

5. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Presentation and report on the status of Municipal Animal Services- Ray Rentschler

B. New Shelter Update

C. New Shelter Policy Review

7. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

A. Approve the New Shelter Policy as presented

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

9. ADJOURN

I hereby certify that this agenda was posted on the City of Everman bulletin board at or before 5:00 p.m. on Thursday February 19, 2026.

/s/ Mindi Parks
City Secretary

Citizens may watch meetings live on YouTube. A link to the City of Everman YouTube channel is provided on the city website at: www.evermantx.us/government/citycouncil/

Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sec. 551.127, on a regular, non-emergency basis, members may attend and participate in the meeting remotely by video conference. Should that occur, a quorum of the members, including the presiding officer, will be physically present at the location noted above on this Agenda.

Pursuant to Section 551.071, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, Boards & Commissions reserve the right to convene into Executive Session(s) from time to time as deemed necessary during this meeting, to receive advice from its attorney on any posted agenda item, as permitted by Law. Additionally, Boards & Commissions may convene into Executive Session to discuss the following:

- A. Section 551.071 - Pending or Contemplated Litigation or to Seek Advice of the City Attorney.
- B. Section 551.072 - Purchase, Sale, Exchange, Lease, or Value of Real Property.
- C. Section 551.073 - Deliberation Regarding Prospective Gift.
- D. Section 551.074 - Personnel Matters.
- E. Section 551.087- Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations.
- F. Section 551.089 - Deliberations Regarding Security Devices or Security Audits.

According to the City of Everman Policy on Governance Process, individual citizen comments will be restricted to three (3) minutes unless otherwise determined by a majority vote of the Council. The Presiding Officer of the Board or Commission is responsible to enforce the time limit. Citizens may address the Board or Commission either during the Citizen Comments portion of the meeting or during deliberation of a listed agenda item. Members of the Board or Commission are only permitted by Law to discuss items that are listed on the agenda. Citizens wishing to make comments should notify the City Secretary as soon as possible.

City Hall is wheelchair accessible. Parking spaces for disabled citizens are available. Requests for sign interpretative services must be made 48 hours prior to the meeting. To make arrangements, call 817.293.0525 or TDD 1.800.RELAY TX, 1.800.735.2989.



ANIMAL SHELTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, December 15, 2025 at 1:00 PM

213 North Race Street Everman, TX 76140

MINUTES

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Ray called meeting to order at 1:00pm.

2. INVOCATION

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approve Last Minutes - September 15, 2025

Motion made by Sellers, Seconded by Pierce.
Voting Yea: Sellers, Boardingham, Pierce, Rentschler (ACO)

Motion Carried

5. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

No Citizen's comments.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Report of Municipal Animal Services - Ray Rentschler

Ray Rentschler presented the committee with the Municipal Animal Services report and went over the stats with the committee. The feral cat complaints were talked about and Alan Pierce suggested getting with Stacey at TCAP. The TNR program is something Alan said that would be good for the feral cat problem if you can get the cats fixed but if you cant then it will not work. The committee also talked about using the city news letters to push information out as well. Ray also wanted to highlight the Mobile Adoption Truck and it hasn't been a year and she has gotten over a hundred animals adopted. Mindy is doing a terrific job. The Christmas Event that Everman had got 5 animals adopted as well. Also, this is Municipal Animal Services and it is branded this way for all the partnerships that we do have and other communities that this serves as the Municipal Animal Services.

B. New Shelter Update - Guest Craig Spencer

City Manager, Craig Spencer also stated to the committee that as they know that a new animal shelter has been needed for quiet some time and the capacity of the shelter is small. This building has one office and is very small and is not in a good area that people know where it is and it is not easy to locate. The past years we have pursued trying to construct and new animal shelter facility. We have went after grants and unfortunately those were cut and wiped out and no longer became an option. The construction prices have gone up and still are on a rise. The 7500 square foot facility we had planned to build would cost over 3 million dollars. That is a tough pill to swallow when there are other things like streets that we would like to go

out for a Bond package for and we have been fearful on how we were going to approach this. Craig stated that in the last couple of weeks, we have had an opportunity come up that is just perfect for us and we have been moving lighting quick trying to make this happen. There is a building here within the City of Everman and it used to operate as a bag supply company. The total building is 30,000 square foot. It is a warehouse. On the inside it does have 6,000 square feet of office space. The City of Everman is looking to lease that space on a lease to own option from the owner. The Everman City Council is considering this tomorrow night and Craig anticipates full approval tomorrow to negotiate the terms of the lease and execute a lease before the end of the month. The plan is to take 10,000 square foot of the front portion of the this building and convert it into the Animal Shelter. This is 6,000 square foot of office space and about 4,000 square foot of Shelter space. Craig displayed the current layout of the building as it sits. He then put the proposed layout for the inside of the building. This displayed the different rooms like a reception area, and big size conference room and several different offices within the building including a Photo Studio. This also displayed where the animals would be and also the sewer, water, internet and cameras would be. Craig explained to the committee the layout of the whole building and what it would be available. The outside area is 100 feet long and the animals would have a lot of room to play and run. He also displayed a concept of what the building would look like outside and what the color would be. We want to attract people and make it easy to see. The color was a nice blue with green trimming and white lettering. Craig also explained what they were asking for the building but it is being negotiated at this time and the city has a good relationship with the owners and we anticipate this being executed. This is a lease-to-own option. This would be a 10 year term lease. The city attorney is putting a lot of protection into this lease as well. Craig stated that tomorrow morning they also have a design build contractor coming to do a walk-through of the building with us and put together a probable cause estimate of the renovations of the building would cost to make this what we want it to be as a animal shelter. There are sewer and water-lines that would need to be put throughout the building as well. Craig explained some of the changes that would need to take place to make this building the way we would need it. This will also allow us to have volunteers and lots more opportunities as well with this building. The whole committee is all in favor with Craigs presentation and would like to move forward with obtaining this building.

7. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Motion made by Pierce, Seconded by Sellers to move forward with the new animal shelter building.

Voting Yea: Sellers, Boardingham, Pierce, Rentschler (ACO)

Motion Carried.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

9. ADJOURN

President Boardingham adjourned the meeting at 1:56pm.

I hereby certify that this agenda was posted on the City of Everman bulletin board at or before 5:00 p.m. on Friday December 9th, 2025.

/s/ Mindi Parks
City Secretary

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Municipal Animal Services Position Statements

MISSION STATEMENT: Working together with compassion to ensure healthy and safe pets and people through education and community outreach.

Municipal Animal Services

- **Public Safety as Our Primary Mandate**

As a municipal animal services department operating under the laws of the State of Texas, including the Texas Health & Safety Code and local ordinances, our foremost responsibility is the protection of public health and safety.

We are committed to:

- Enforcing state and local animal control laws
- Responding promptly to dangerous dog incidents and cruelty complaints
- Investigating bite cases and enforcing rabies control measures
- Ensuring animals placed into the community do not present a safety risk

Public safety will always guide our decision-making, placement standards, and enforcement practices.

- **Spay and Neuter as Responsible Population Control**

We strongly support accessible and affordable spay and neuter services as the most effective tool to reduce overpopulation and shelter intake across Texas communities.

Through education, partnerships, and enforcement of local ordinances where applicable, we promote sterilization as a core component of responsible pet ownership.

Preventing unwanted litters reduces euthanasia, stray populations, and strain on municipal resources.

- **Transparency, Accountability, and Fiscal Responsibility**

As a Texas municipal department funded by taxpayers, we operate with transparency, fiscal responsibility, and accountability to our city leadership and residents.

We will:

- Maintain accurate reporting
- Follow state and local mandated holding periods
- Ensure compliance with Texas rabies control regulations
- Use data to guide policy decisions

Our responsibility is to balance compassion with lawful, ethical, and community-centered operations.

- **Safer Communities for People and Pets**

Our vision for the communities we serve:

- Pets are responsibly owned
- Animals are properly identified and vaccinated
- Stray populations are reduced
- Safe, adoptable animals find loving homes
- Public safety remains paramount

Through enforcement, education, and ethical sheltering practices, we work to create a community where both people and animals thrive.

Field Operations

- **Rapid Reunification: Returning Pets to Their Owners**

Texas law recognizes pets as property, and we prioritize returning stray animals to their rightful owners as quickly as possible.

We actively promote:

- Microchipping and identification tags
- Field-based reunification when appropriate
- Accessible lost-and-found reporting
- Efficient redemption procedures

Reducing length of stay decreases stress on animals, lowers operational costs, and strengthens community trust.

- **Reducing Stray and Free-Roaming Animals**

Free-roaming animals present risks including:

- Traffic hazards
- Rabies exposure
- Livestock conflicts
- Wildlife impact
- Public nuisance concerns

We are committed to proactive enforcement, public education, and community partnerships to reduce stray populations and keep animals safely confined and cared for.

Shelter Operations

- **Lifesaving and Safe Placement Within a Public Safety Framework**

As a Texas municipal animal services department, we believe every healthy and behaviorally sound animal deserves the opportunity to find a responsible home. We are committed to maximizing live outcomes through adoption programs, rescue collaboration, return-to-owner efforts, and active community engagement.

At the same time, public safety remains our primary responsibility. We adopt out only animals that have been evaluated and deemed safe for placement in the community. Our adoption standards include behavioral assessments, bite history review, compliance with Texas dangerous dog statutes, and full transparency with adopters.

While we strive for positive outcomes for every adoptable animal, we will not place animals that present an unreasonable risk to children, families, other household pets, or the public. All

lifesaving efforts operate within the boundaries of state law, local ordinances, and responsible placement standards.

Our approach balances compassion with accountability—protecting people and pets while creating opportunities for safe animals to find loving homes.

- **Owner Surrender Policy**

As a municipal animal shelter, our primary responsibility under Texas law is to protect public health and safety by responding to stray animals, bite cases, dangerous dogs, and cruelty investigations.

Because kennel space and resources are limited and funded by taxpayers, we do **not accept owner surrenders for rehoming purposes.**

Owners are responsible for finding a new home for their pets through family, friends, rescue organizations, or other private rehoming options. Surrendering a pet to the municipal shelter should not be the first solution when challenges arise.

We do accept owner animals **for humane euthanasia services**, in accordance with Texas law and professional standards.

- **Stray Animal Intake Policy**

To ensure proper jurisdiction, public safety, and responsible use of taxpayer-funded resources, all stray animals must be brought to the shelter **by an Animal Services Officer (ASO).**

Stray intake is conducted by Animal Services personnel only to:

- Verify the animal was found within city limits
- Confirm proper jurisdiction
- Ensure legal impound procedures are followed
- Document location and circumstances of pickup
- Make every reasonable effort in the field to locate the owner

Our officers actively scan for microchips, check identification, and attempt field reunification whenever possible before impoundment.

If you find a loose animal within the city limits of Edgecliff Village, Everman, Forest Hill or Kennedale, please contact Animal Services for assistance. Do not bring stray animals directly to the shelter unless instructed by an officer.

This process helps us:

- Return pets home faster
- Reduce unnecessary shelter intake
- Maintain accurate reporting and legal compliance
- Prioritize public safety response

We appreciate the community’s partnership in helping keep animals safely contained and returned to their rightful owners.
