



ANIMAL SERVICES

Joint Animal Services Commission Rescheduled Meeting Agenda

Refer to the bottom of the agenda for meeting information.

Monday, April 21, 2025

5:30 PM

Lacey City Hall and Online

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda Items

A. Approval of Agenda

B. February 10, 2025, Meeting Minutes

4. Public Comment

Refer to the bottom of the agenda for instructions on how to provide public comment.

5. Business Items

A. Budget Amendment

Sarah Hock, Executive Director

B. Mason County Contract Discussion

Sarah Hock, Executive Director

C. February/March 2025 Shelter Statistics and Field Data

Sarah Hock, Executive Director

6. Director Report

A. Sarah Hock, Executive Director

7. Adjourn

Attendance and Public Comment

Attend Remote or In-Person

The public may attend the meeting in-person, or you may view or listen to the meeting using one of the following platforms:

In-Person Council Chambers at Lacey City Hall
420 College Street SE, Lacey, WA 98503

Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4kXXJI-URQ6eZTDCEHIDHw

Website: <https://cityoflacey.org/government/public-meetings/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cityoflacey>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PJKrA9gujNo>
Cable: Channel 77 with your local cable provider
Phone: (888) 788-0099 or (877) 853-5247 (Webinar ID 834 8710 9495)

Verbal Public Comment

Each speaker is limited to three minutes. Comments are welcome on matters connected to City business or specific agenda items.

Prior to starting your comments, please provide your:

- a. Name
- b. City of residence or connection to the Commission
- c. Topic or subject matter of your comments

Those wishing to provide verbal public comment may do so in-person or by Zoom.

In-Person: Use the sign-up sheet located in the Council Chambers.
Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4kXXJI-URQ6eZTDCEHIDHw

Written Public Comment

Public comments may also be submitted by email to Public.Comment@jointanimalservices.org. The commenting period will close two hours before the meeting time. Written comments will be provided to the Commission electronically prior to the meeting. Comments will not be addressed during the meeting; however, comments received will be added to the official record.



ANIMAL SERVICES

Joint Animal Services Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 10, 2025

5:30 PM

Lacey City Hall and Online

1. Call to Order

Commissioner Agabi called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Kelly Green, City of Olympia; Peter Agabi, City of Tumwater (remote); Malcolm Miller, City of Lacey; Emily Clouse, Thurston County; Jo MacGugan, Feline Friends of Olympia; and Vicky Smith, DVM, Deschutes Animal Clinic

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Mike Murphy, DVM, Thurston County Humane Society

STAFF PRESENT: Shannon Kelley-Fong, Assistant City Manager; Sarah Hock, Joint Animal Services Executive Director; Sierra Teas, Animal Welfare and Field Services Manager; Andrew Toledo, Operations Manager; Ashley Smith, Engineering Design Manager; and Paul J. White, Deputy City Clerk

3. Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda Items

- A. Approval of Agenda
- B. December 2024 Meeting Minutes
- C. December 2024 and January 2025 Shelter Statistics

Commissioner Miller moved to approve the agenda and consent agenda items. Commissioner Clouse seconded. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment

No one registered to speak in person or remotely, and no written public comments were received.

In response to Commissioner Agabi, Hock announced that the commission's

regular meeting schedule in 2025 would be to meet the second Monday of even-numbered months and the month of November at 5:30 p.m. at Lacey City Hall. There were no objections.

5. Business Items

A. Election of Officers

1. Chair

Commissioner Agabi opened the floor for nominations for the office of Commission Chair. Commissioner Clouse nominated herself. Commissioner Miller nominated himself. Nominations were closed, and the commission proceeded to vote to elect a chair for 2025.

Commissioner Clouse received 2 votes. Commissioner Miller received 4 votes. Commissioner Miller was elected Chair for 2025 and immediately assumed the duties of that office.

2. Vice Chair

Chair Miller opened the floor for nominations for the office of Commission Vice Chair. Chair Miller nominated Commissioner Clouse, who consented. Nominations were closed, and the commission proceeded to vote to elect a vice chair for 2025.

Commissioner Clouse was unanimously elected Vice Chair for 2025 and immediately assumed the duties of that office.

B. Space Needs Assessment

Sarah Hock, Executive Director
Ashley Smith, Engineering Design Manager
Amy Sanchez, Animal Arts
Sara Boman, Animal Arts

Hock presented an overview of Animal Services' space needs assessment process beginning in September 2022. Hock noted that continuing to use the existing facility location was considered and dismissed by the commission as not viable in 2024. It is estimated \$500,000 will be needed immediately to maintain the current facility in a functioning condition before considering additional investment that will be needed in the near future, described as a horizon of three-to-five years. Commissioners inquired about the facilities needing attention, valuation of the current facility and land, and how long it will take to build a new facility once a location is secured. Smith estimated it would take about two years before breaking ground and approximately eight months of construction after that.

Boman presented a concept plan for a new animal services facility that considers functionality and long-term maintenance. Hock presented options for differently

sized facilities ranging from an initial concept larger than 30,000 square feet to a current proposal at under 20,000 square feet. The estimated cost ranges from \$33 million to \$41.5 million, depending in part on whether in-house veterinary space is included. There is a pending request to the Legislature of \$2 million to complete facility design. Site selection will also affect the cost of the new facility. The concept design is geared at accommodating current demand with some flexibility for incremental growth over time.

C. Contract Approval: Nisqually Tribe

Sarah Hock, Executive Director

Hock presented the professional services agreement renewal to provide animal services to the Nisqually Tribe in 2025.

**Commissioner Miller moved to approve the contract as presented.
Commissioner Green seconded. The motion carried.**

D. Contract Approval: Town of Bucoda

Sarah Hock, Executive Director

Hock presented the new professional services agreement to provide animal services to the Town of Bucoda in 2025. The new contract represents full services to Bucoda, a town with a population of 620. Joint Animal Services will collect \$8,000/year based on population.

**Commissioner Green moved to approve the contract as presented.
Commissioner Clouse seconded. The motion carried.**

E. Joint Animal Services 2024 Review

Sarah Hock, Executive Director

Hock presented a review of Joint Animal Services for 2024, including the \$3.6 million 2025 budget, 2025 jurisdictional assessments, key accomplishments, and a variety of activity statistics.

6. Director Report

A. Sarah Hock, Executive Director

Hock presented the Director's report, noting staff development, field updates for pending felony cases, participation in the Washington Animal Control Association's Animal Control Officer Academy by several of Joint Animal Services' staff, legislative updates, and recent inquiries for contracted services from jurisdictions in Thurston County. Hock announced that the April commission meeting will be rescheduled from April 14 to April 21. Hock shared the "Happy Tail" of Callie the dog, who was seized in an animal cruelty case in October 2024 and was placed

with The Pittie Project PNW as a cruelty foster pending a court decision about her future, despite the extraordinary circumstances of her case.

7. Adjourn

Chair Miller adjourned the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

DRAFT



STAFF REPORT April 21, 2025

SUBJECT: Budget Amendment

RECOMMENDATION: Motion to “Approve a 2025 Budget Amendment of \$12,900.24 for AWC L&I Retro Pool Assessment for JAS.”

TO: Joint Animal Services Commission

STAFF CONTACT: Sarah Hock, Animal Services Executive Director

ORIGINATED BY: Joint Animal Services

ATTACHMENTS: None

FISCAL NOTE: Use of \$12,900.24 from reserves

PRIOR REVIEW: None

BACKGROUND: The City of Lacey is a member of the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) L&I Retro Program and Retro Pool. The AWC Retro Program is a cooperative group of governmental entities that join together to reduce the frequency and severity of workplace injuries through proactive claims management and loss control services. Actual gains, losses, and financial liabilities are shared among the membership according to Board-adopted formulas and policies. Members are accountable to the pool as a whole, as well as understanding how their actions may affect the program's overall success.

The assessment of \$12,900.24 stems from an increase in the City of Lacey’s experience rating, which plays a crucial role in setting the City’s L&I premium rates and its participation costs in the AWC Retro Pool Program.

Rating Data: A score of 1 is neutral; scores of less than 1 may receive a rebate based on how the total pool performs; scores over 1 have premium assessments.

- 2020 Experience Rating: 0.9119 (rebate, Lacey paid 9% less)
- 2024 Experience Rating: 1.4824 (premium, Lacey will pay 48.24% more)

This alteration signifies a change in the City's risk profile and will likely lead to increased costs for several years since L&I claims stay on record for three years.

The City's L&I experience rating dropped slightly in 2025 to 1.4269.

Next Steps:

1. The \$12,900.24 has been incorporated into the 2025 budget amendment ordinance for the City of Lacey.
2. This amendment must be reviewed and approved by JASCOM before it is finalized by the City Council.
3. Amend the 2025 Animal Services Budget to include \$12,900.24 for the AWC L&I Retro Pool Assessment for JAS. JAS reserves would be used to cover this amendment.
4. Future JAS budgets may increase their anticipated rate based on recent ratings.



STAFF REPORT April 21st, 2025

SUBJECT: Contract with Mason County for Services

RECOMMENDATION: Discuss a potential service contract between Mason County and Joint Animal Services.

TO: Joint Animal Services Commission

STAFF CONTACT: Sarah Hock, Animal Services Executive Director

ORIGINATED BY: Joint Animal Services

ATTACHMENTS: 1. Contract Field Calls to Mason County

FISCAL NOTE: This is a \$175,000, two-year contract that may auto-renew an additional two times (6 years total) with a 5% increase every year.

PRIOR REVIEW: None

BACKGROUND: In late November 2024, Joint Animal Services (JAS) and Mason County initiated discussions regarding the potential for JAS to assist with animal-related cases in Mason County. This was the direct result of a case in April 2024, where JAS assisted with a large-scale cruelty investigation.

JAS performed an assessment of animal control-related services in Mason County. Based on this assessment and discussions with Mason County, JAS recommends considering a two-year contract with Mason County to provide limited animal control and field services, as well as sheltering related to these services.

A future contract would define service provisions, financial commitments, and operational parameters. The recommended services provision is:

1. Service Coverage and Staffing:

- Budget: \$175,000 annually
- Service Hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 0800-1700

- Personnel: 1 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Field Services Officer (FSO). FSO would be hired specifically for this coverage using contract funding.
- Contract Term: Two-year term, with an option to auto-renew up to two times (six years total) with a 5% annual increase.
- Termination: Mason County or JASCOM may terminate the contract based on a failure to remedy a breach of contract with 90 days' notice without penalty.

2. **Scope of Services:**

- See a list of field services provided in **Attachment 1**.
- No after-hours or weekend response.
- Livestock, including poultry or small farm animals, is not accepted.
- JAS will take up to 125 domestic animals a year. This contract is primarily for dogs and cats; JAS leadership must approve any other small domestic pet animal type and they would be counted against this total.
- JAS will not take stray animals picked up or found by Law Enforcement or the public, owner surrenders outside of field-initiated cases, or owner-requested euthanasia.
- Animals would be impounded at JAS FSO discretion.
- Mason County will work with JAS to update its Municipal Code, granting JAS the authority to issue citations in the county and reflect best animal control practices. Mason County would agree to provide all tools necessary for issuing citations.
- Mason County will provide a central location for JAS FSOs, including a designated workspace and parking space.

3. **Financial Commitments:**

- \$95,000 for one (1) FTE FSO, covering salary, benefits, and other indirect costs.
- \$12,500 for administrative costs, e.g., vehicles, gas, training, human resources, finance, etc.
- \$50,000 covers housing, sheltering, and basic medical for up to 125 animals. Basic medical includes in-house exams, vaccinations, in-house medications, spay/neuter surgery, and a basic level of care for illnesses treated in-house.
- \$17,500 for cruelty-related expenses, including forensic exams and additional medical care. Mason County must approve potential costs over

\$20,000 before services are rendered. If approval is not given, JAS will not seek additional services.

- JAS would approve going over the 125-animal limit in extenuating circumstances; the parties would need to approve the associated additional costs.

4. Emergency Callout Services:

- Callouts outside of Tuesday - Saturday, 0800-1700
- Fee: \$1,750 per call-out
- FSO, to the best of their ability, will call Mason County Law Enforcement within two hours in the event of an emergency; an estimated time of arrival on scene will be provided at that time.
- Criteria for Callouts:
 - Dogs attack livestock or pets, the dog is available to be impounded, and the dog cannot be safely contained until the following day.
 - Dogs bite humans, the dog is available to be impounded, and the dog cannot be safely contained until the following day.
 - Agency assist: Mason County law enforcement must be on the scene before a callout to JAS, for example, in a crime scene where aggressive animals hinder the investigation.

5. Impacts to JAS services in Thurston County:

- The contract would not be effective until the JAS FSO is hired and trained.
- Impacts to the other jurisdictions are anticipated to be minimal.
- Thurston County ILA partners take priority over contract partners if services are disrupted. If there is a staffing issue, delays in services would only affect Mason County and not our ILA partners:
 - Reduced contract services to Mason County.
 - Extended response times for Priority 2 calls.
 - Would not go out on any Priority 3 calls.
 - Mason County would pay a reduced amount of the contract if there is a service disruption that is caused by staffing levels.

6. Cost Comparison:

- ILA partners pay \$1.61 per capita for full field services.
- Mason County will pay \$2.27 per capita for limited field services and housing for field-related impounds.

7. Impacts to Assessments:

- This contract would not impact assessments as it covers all direct service costs, including personnel, administration, and animal care costs.
- Any future expansion of services would be negotiated with Mason County for increased fees.

Next Steps. Discuss the potential contract for services between Mason County and Joint Animal Services. JASCOM could consider the following next steps at this meeting or at a future meeting:

Option 1: Approve JAS staff to negotiate a contract with Mason County with the above terms. JASCOM would still need to approve the contract at a future meeting.

Option 2: Recommend that JAS staff not move forward with the contract.

Option 3: Some other option not contemplated above.

Attachment 1

Joint Animal Services shall respond to, investigate, enforce, and/or provide services for the following issues within unincorporated Mason County:

Priority 1 (Emergency and/or Immediate Response Required): Calls that pose an immediate threat to public safety, human life, or the welfare of an animal. 24 contracted hour response time.

Priority 2 (Urgent – Timely Response Needed): Calls that are important but do not pose an immediate danger to life or safety. 48 contracted hour response time.

Priority 3 (Routine—Low Urgency): Calls that require attention but do not pose an immediate or urgent risk may be addressed as resources allow. 72 contracted hour response time.

JAS will respond to the following calls:

Priority 1

1. **ABANDONED ANIMAL** - An animal reported being left by the owner or caretaker inside or outside a structure without access to food, water, or appropriate environmental conditions to allow continued health and protection from adverse conditions.
2. **CAT/DOG HAS BITTEN A HUMAN** - The animal has bitten a human and has broken the skin creating the possibility of fluid transfer. Joint Animal Services works in conjunction with the Thurston County Health Department on Bite1 type calls and acts as the entry level investigation regarding rabies possibilities and concerns.
3. **CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (ALLEGED)** - Cruelty to animals is generally defined as a person who knowingly, recklessly, or with criminal negligence inflicts unnecessary suffering or pain on an animal or forces a minor to do so.
4. **DANGEROUS DOG AT LARGE** - A dog previously designated through legal processes as a “Dangerous Dog” is not abiding by the required restrictions
5. **MENACING 1** - A dog has engaged in threatening behavior on public or private property (other than the animal owner’s) and reasonably places a person in immediate physical harm to themselves or an animal under immediate control of that person.
6. **PACK OF DOGS** - A group of 2 or more dogs are running together and causing people to feel that they are at risk of injury or are affronted and/or alarmed.

7. **POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS DOG (PDD) AT LARGE/IN VIOLATION** - A dog that has been legally designated as “Potentially Dangerous” for is reported in violation of the restrictions set out in the designation.
8. **POLICE ASSIST** - Law Enforcement Officers at the state or local jurisdictional level and belonging to jurisdictions that contract with Joint Animal Services require assistance.
9. **QUARANTINE VIOLATION** - Field Services Officers are dispatched to a property to ensure that quarantine procedures are being adhered too
10. **WELFARE 1** - An animal is reported to be in circumstances that are a clear and immediate threat to its life. An owner may or may not be available on scene.

Priority 2

1. **MENACING 2** - A person has suffered chronic or mildly threatening behavior by a dog, but the dog does not keep them from moving freely on their own or public property. The dog’s address/owner is known.
2. **WELFARE 2** - A pet animal is reported to be in a wide variety of situations that are detrimental to its health and wellbeing. This animal is not in an immediate life-threatening situation
3. **CAT/DOG HAS BITTEN ANOTHER PET ANIMAL** - A dog or a cat has attacked and bitten another pet animal.
4. **KILLED PET ANIMAL OR LIVESTOCK**- An owned animal, often a dog or a cat, has killed another person’s pet animal.

Priority 3

1. **MENACING 3** - A person is either willing or unwilling to make a written statement regarding a dog that has shown menacing behavior. The complainant may or may not know where the dog or owner lives.
2. **BARKING DOG** - is defined as a dog that habitually or continually disturbs the peace and quiet of any individual or neighborhood by barking, whining, howling or making any other noise.
3. **LIVESTOCK MENACED** - A pet animal, often a dog, has been menacing animals of the livestock variety.

	Dogs	24	16	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	53	44	
	Cats	24	11	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	48	34	
	Other	6	19	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32	5	
Treatable - Rehabilitatable																
	Dogs	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	2	
	Cats	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	2	
	Other	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	
Treatable - Manageable																
	Dogs	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	4	
	Cats	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	
	Other	0	308	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	308	1	
Healthy																
	Dogs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Cats	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	SUB-TOTAL	65	359	38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	462	70	
Owner Request (E5)																
	Dogs	17	11	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	36	
	Cats	5	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	25	
	Other	2	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	3	
	SUB-TOTAL	24	20	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	58	47	23.40%
	TOTAL EUTHANASIA	65	359	38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	462	70	560.00%
	Died At Shelter	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	7	
	Escaped/Stolen	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
FIELD AND OTHER SERVICES																
Animals Currently																
Court Involved																
	Dogs	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	
	Cats	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Other	0	495	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	495	11	4400.00%
Field Response																
	Olympia	62	41	55	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	158	143	10.49%
	Lacey	46	33	45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	124	134	-7.46%
	Tumwater	19	24	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	67	55	21.82%
	Thurston County	132	108	122	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	362	297	21.89%
	JBLM	3	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	4	125.00%
	Other	2	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	10	10.00%
	Yelm	6	9	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	27	-3.70%
	SUB TOTAL	270	226	261	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	757	670	12.99%
	PDD/DD Appeals	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	

Animal Services Shelter Statistics 2025

25-Feb 24-Feb

Intake

Total Animals Received (live and doa)

Dogs	134	102
Cats	66	58
Other	498	3
Wild	5	5
TOTAL	703	168

Custody-Misc Reasons

Dogs	8	4
Cats	3	1
Other	65	0
TOTAL	76	5

Strays Received

Dogs	71	60
Cats	47	37
Other	0	3
TOTAL	118	100

Owner Surrendered

Dogs	51	37
Cats	16	9
Other	433	0
TOTAL	500	46

Owner Status Refused

Dogs	0	0
Cats	0	0
Other	0	0
TOTAL	0	0

WILDLIFE HANDLED

Incoming

Live	2	0
Doa	3	5
TOTAL	5	5

Outgoing

Doa	3	5
Euthanized (sick/inj)	2	0
Died	0	0
Bat-Rabies check	0	0
Released/Transferred	0	0
TOTAL	5	5

Outgoing Animals

Total Animals Out, incl all categories below

Dogs	147	105
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Cats	81	67
Other	498	5
Wild	5	5
Died, esc, stolen	0	3
TOTAL	731	185

Animals Adopted

Dogs	53	31
Cats	50	20
Other	0	4
TOTAL	103	55

Animals Transferred

Dogs	9	7
Cats	8	3
Other	107	0
Total	124	10

Animals Reclaimed

Dogs	37	21
Cats	1	3
Other	0	0
TOTAL	38	24

Animals DOA

Dogs	9	3
Cats	7	7
Other	5	5
TOTAL	21	15

All Euthanasia, Died, Escaped, Stolen (from pg 2)

Dogs	19	28
Cats	12	9
Other	388	0
Died, esc, stolen	0	3
Total	419	40

25-Feb 24-Feb

EUTHANASIA, DIED, ESCAPED, STOLEN

Animals Euthanized Unhealthy/Untreatable

Dogs	16	27
Cats	11	9
Other	19	0

Treatable - Rehabilitatable

Dogs	1	0
Cats	1	0
Other	1	0

Animal Services Shelter Statistics 2025

	25-Mar	24-Mar
Intake		
Total Animals Received (live and doa)		
Dogs	141	108
Cats	122	138
Other	14	21
Wild	12	8
TOTAL	289	275
Custody-Misc Reasons		
Dogs	9	2
Cats	34	0
Other	0	18
TOTAL	43	20
Strays Received		
Dogs	104	72
Cats	55	53
Other	0	1
TOTAL	159	126
Owner Surrendered		
Dogs	25	34
Cats	26	67
Other	14	2
TOTAL	65	103
Owner Status Refused		
Dogs	0	0
Cats	0	0
Other	0	0
TOTAL	0	0
WILDLIFE HANDLED		
Incoming		
Live	4	1
Doa	8	7
TOTAL	12	8
Outgoing		
Doa	8	7
Euthanized (sick/inj)	4	1
Died	0	0
Bat-Rabies check	0	0
Released/Transferred	0	0
TOTAL	12	8

Outgoing Animals

Total Animals Out, incl all categories below

Dogs	170	126
Cats	122	102
Other	14	14
Wild	12	8
Died, esc, stolen	1	4
TOTAL	319	254

Animals Adopted

Dogs	75	44
Cats	63	31
Other	1	12
TOTAL	139	87

Animals Transferred

Dogs	13	2
Cats	19	7
Other	0	0
Total	32	9

Animals Reclaimed

Dogs	28	26
Cats	3	2
Other	0	0
TOTAL	31	28

Animals DOA

Dogs	15	4
Cats	16	23
Other	18	9
TOTAL	49	36

All Euthanasia, Died, Escaped, Stolen

Dogs	15	1
Cats	16	3
Other	18	0
Died, esc, stolen	1	0
Total	50	4
	25-Mar	24-Mar

EUTHANASIA, DIED, ESCAPED, STOLEN

Animals Euthanized

Unhealthy/Untreatable

Dogs	13	17
Cats	13	8
Other	7	1

Treatable - Rehabilitatable

Dogs	2	2
Cats	0	1
Other	0	0

Treatable - Manageable

Dogs	2	4
Cats	1	0
Other	0	0

Healthy

Dogs	0	0
Cats	0	0
Other	0	0

SUB-TOTAL 38 33

Owner Request (E5)

Dogs	7	16
Cats	4	7
Other	3	0

SUB-TOTAL 14 23

TOTAL EUTHANASIA 38 33

Died At Shelter 1 4

Escaped/Stolen 0 0

FIELD AND OTHER SERVICES

Animals Currently

Court Involved

Dogs	0	0
Cats	0	0
Other	0	11

Field Response

Olympia	55	52
Lacey	45	50
Tumwater	24	24
Thurston County	122	121
JBLM	2	1
Other	2	4
Yelm	11	8
SUB TOTAL	261	260

PDD/DD Appeals 1 0



Joint Animal Services Commission Director's report

April 21st, 2025

Bequests

This year, JAS has received multiple bequests amounting to over \$1.8 million, the largest of which is a \$990,000 bequest from the estate of Ann Rae Flannery.

Best Friends National Conference

Sarah Hock spoke at the Best Friends Animal Society National Conference in February alongside some of the country's leading professionals in animal welfare. The presentation, "Embracing the Realities of Running an Animal Shelter: Expectations vs. Reality," delves into the disparity between expectations and the realities of shelter management, providing a candid look at industry challenges and offering practical strategies to address them.



LEADing Conversations

In March, Sarah Hock, JAS Executive Director, and Kirsten Gregory, Legislative Affairs Director and General Counsel for Pasado's Safe Haven, presented a national webinar titled "Advocating for Change: How Animal Control Laws are Shaped." The session delved into the legislative process behind animal control laws, advocating for change through collaboration and impacting animal protection laws at the state and local level, including how they are written and passed, and what you can do to make an impact.

March 26th
10:30 PST/1:30 EST

ADVOCATING FOR CHANGE:
How Animal Control Laws are Shaped

LEAD by:
Sarah Hock
Executive Director of Joint Animal Services in Olympia, WA

Guest Speaker:
Kirsten Gregory
Legislative Affairs Director and General Counsel for Pasado's Safe Haven

NACA

LEADing
Conversations
2025

Hosted By:
GoodPup



Joint Animal Services Commission Director's report

Washington State Animal Control Academy

JAS FSOs Ferris and Olson attended and earned Washington State Animal Control Academy certification. The ACO Academy is a mandatory state training program organized by the Washington Animal Control Association (WACA) in collaboration with the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Center (WCJTC). JAS was represented this year at the Academy through planning, teaching, and attendance. The Animal Welfare and Field Services Manager, Sierra Teas, participated in the planning committee. Sarah Hock, the Executive Director, and Dr. Vicky Smith, JASCOM commissioner, served as this year's training instructors for several classes.



Cowlitz County Tour

JAS hosted staff from Cowlitz County and the city of Longview to tour our facility and learn more about the ILA that formed JAS and JASCOM.



Joint Animal Services Commission Director's report

NACA Summit

JAS was proudly represented at the National Animal Care & Control Association (NACA) Summit, a prestigious gathering of animal control officers, professionals, and state associations from across the country. The summit, which serves as a platform for collaboration, education, and advancing best practices in the field of animal services, was hosted by the NACA Board of Directors. Notably, Sarah Hock, who serves as a board member of NACA and the Executive Director of JAS, played an active role in the planning and execution of the event. Her involvement not only highlighted JAS's leadership in the field but also reinforced the organization's commitment to improving animal welfare on a national scale.



Field Operations and Investigations

- **February 13**—Our team executed a warrant for suspected cockfighting in collaboration with the Thurston County Sheriff's Office. Over 500 chickens were involved in the investigation.
- **April 1** – Field team members supported a neighboring county in a large-scale animal cruelty investigation.

Personnel

- On March 3rd, we welcomed Randi Huston as our new Animal Control Technician (ACT).
- We have made a tentative offer for an LVT.

Staff Training

- **February 24–29** – Field Services Officers (FSOs) Bolar and Ferris completed the Code 3 Associates EAST Module A training.
- **March 31–April 4** – FSO Olson completed Code 3 Associates EAST Module A.
- **April 14–19** – FSOs Olson and Ferris attended Code 3 Associates EAST Module B.
- **April 12** – Team members Taegan (ACT), Officer Ferris, Officer Bolar, Officer Northrup, and Bekka (Positive Outcomes Coordinator) attended specialized training with Dr. Watson, a forensic veterinary pathologist, covering Washington state animal abuse cases and forensic procedures.



Joint Animal Services Commission Director's report

ANIMAL SERVICES

- **April 15–18** – Several team members attended the **Humane World for Animals (formerly HSUS) Animal Care Expo** in Las Vegas for continued education and networking with animal welfare professionals.

Volunteer Program Development

JAS launched its new volunteer and foster program, explicitly designed for our cruelty and neglect cases. Participants in the Animal Cruelty Response Volunteer and Foster Program will assist our Field Team in cruelty seizure cases and the ongoing rehabilitation and care of victim animals. Given the nature of these cases, recruitment was highly targeted and specialized. The training includes:

- Animal cruelty investigations
- Scene photography and documentation
- Evidence collection
- Zoonotic diseases
- Veterinary forensics
- Field safety

Program Launches and Engagement

- **February 13** – Launched the *Enrichment Volunteer Program*, allowing volunteers to create toys and treats to enhance the well-being of shelter animals.
- **March 5**—Recruitment for the Animal Cruelty Response Volunteer and Field Program began in coordination with Field Services (details above).

Community Outreach and Events

- **February 20** – Participated in the Yelm Animal Allies Club event.
- **February 26** – Coordinated a donation pick-up from MudBay.
- **February 26** – Meagan and Bekka completed Drug Log Usage training.
- **March 5** – Attended the Lacey Library Animal Allies Club event.
- **March 20** – Participated in the Yelm Library Animal Allies Club event.
- **April 2** – Returned to the Lacey Library for continued engagement with the Animal Allies Club.



ANIMAL SERVICES
Happy Tails

Joint Animal Services Commission Director's report

In mid-March, JAS assisted Regional Animal Services of King County in taking in dogs from an overwhelmed caregiver. The dogs were unsocialized and underweight, and RASKC was at full capacity. Sierra Teas, our Animal Welfare and Field Manager, fostered "Hachiko" for his behavior and medical needs until he found his forever family.

From the adopters:

"He's really settled in these last 3 weeks. While he can be shy or timid with myself and my husband, he has bonded with our 14yo daughter, Kalli, very quickly. We adopted him as her emotional support animal and it has changed her behavior for the better. She's responsible for feeding and taking him out, making sure he's okay. His favorite place to be is outside in our fenced in yard. He absolutely loves chasing bugs and playing with them, leaps after leaves that get blown across the pavement. We've learned to hold his leash tight because he tends to just try to take off after leaves and bugs! He plays with toys on his own, tossing them up in the air and playing with them. He loves the bones we got. So far, he's been the perfect gentleman, as I like to say. No barking, no whining, and we've learned to let him out on a schedule - he just won't tell us when he needs to go out! His favorite sleeping position is on his back, every time I go into Kallis room, his legs are straight up in the air! I look forward to getting to know him more. He's the perfect addition to our family and we are forever thankful we got that introduction 3 weeks ago. He was the first dog we looked at the first time we decided to find a dog - the stars aligned and now Mochi is part of our family."

