



City of South Bend

Animal Welfare Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes – Thursday, February 13, 2025

Location: Council Chambers, 4th Floor, County-City Building, 227 W. Jefferson Blvd., South Bend, IN 46601

This meeting was live-streamed at the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/2024AWCHybrid>

Animal Welfare Commission members present in person: Rebecca Kaiser, Christina Gerken, and Alicia Flores

City staff present: Lindsay Cuellar – SBARC Shelter Manager, Jessica McLain – Attorney for SBARC, Adam Taylor– Attorney for AWC.

1. This meeting was called to order by Chairperson Christina Gerken at 6:02 pm.
2. Chairperson Gerken took a roll call and a quorum of Commissioners were present.
3. The January 9, 2025, minutes were approved by Motion.
4. SBARC manager Cuellar provided Monthly Shelter reports to the Commissioners.
5. Adam Taylor provided an update concerning ongoing ordinance review.
6. An emergency hearing was called by Hearing Officer Adam Taylor in Case: 2025-1 for A. Wiczorkowski to determine if respondent violated the Commission's January 10, 2025 Order.
 - a. After hearing the evidence presented by SBARC, the Commissioners determined that Respondent was in violation of the previous Order issued on January 10, 2025, and the Order was modified so that the Respondent was prohibited from owning any animals, within the City of South Bend, for fifteen (15) years, and that the Respondent's current dog be surrendered or seized and impounded by SBARC.
7. A hearing was called by Hearing Officer Adam Taylor in Case: 2025-02 for J. Buford III to determine whether the Respondent shall be labeled a Habitual Animal Offender.
 - a. After hearing the evidence presented by SBARC, the Commissioners determined that Respondent is a habitual animal offender and ordered that he be designated a habitual animal offender for the period of 15 years and all animals owned by Respondent be surrendered or seized and impounded by SBARC.
8. The meeting was adjourned by motion.

Approved by Secretary:

Date:

5/8/25

Dr. Mariah Covey

Christina Gerken

Rebecca Kaiser

Alicia Flores