

350 E. Dahlia Ave., Palmer, Alaska 99645

3. Victim Statements (*15 minutes – the Board, the Borough, and the appellant shall have the opportunity to ask questions*)
 - a. Chad Issacson, Victim Animal Owner
4. Witness Statements (5 minutes - *the board, the borough staff, and the owner/appellant shall have the opportunity to question witnesses*)
 - a. Matthew Hardwig, Chief Animal Care and Regulation Officer
 - b. Angela Costa, Former Animal Care and Regulation Officer – Possible Telephonic Witness
 - c. Chad Issacson – Possible Telephonic Witness
 - d. Any witness designated on Appellant’s witness list
 - e. Any witness mentioned in the record on appeal
 - f. Any witness needed to impeach the testimony of another witness
 - g. Any witness necessary to lay the foundation for the admission into evidence of any exhibit or document contained in Appellant’s exhibits
 - h. Any rebuttal witnesses as may become apparent at the time of the hearing
5. Closing Remarks by Animal Owner (*10 minutes*)
 - a. Thomas Hannam, Appellant
6. Closing Remarks by Borough (*10 minutes*)
 - a. Erin Ashmore, Assistant Borough Attorney

V. ADJUDICATORY SESSION

REGULAR BOARD MEETING (Immediately following appeal hearing)

- I. ELECT OFFICERS
 - a. Elect Chairperson
 - b. Elect Vice Chairperson
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - a. 07/18/25
- III. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (*3 minutes each*)
- IV. ITEMS OF BUSINESS
 - a. Report from Animal Care and Regulation Staff
- V. BOARD COMMENTS
- VI. ADJOURNMENT

I. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Animal Care and Regulation Board was called to order at 10 a.m. by Acting Chairperson Daniel Bowen.

II. ROLL CALL

Board members present and establishing a quorum were:

Sally Pollen
Terry Dennison
Daniel Bowen

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Acting Chairperson Bowen queried if there were any changes to the agenda.

The agenda was approved as presented without objection.

III. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

- A. AC&R Case No. 25-05, Appeal the Level 4 Classification of Jewels, Matthew Ostrander, Appellant
 - 1. Opening Presentation by Borough Staff *(15 minutes collectively – the Board and the owner/appellant shall have the opportunity to question all Borough staff that make a presentation or otherwise offer testimony to the board)*
 - a. Raegan Visker, Legal Intern

[Clerk's note: the opening presentation time was shared.]

Raegan Visker, Legal Intern, provided an opening statement.

Matt Hardwig, Chief Animal Care and Regulation Officer, provided his opening statement.

- 2. Opening Presentation by Animal Owner *(15 minutes collectively – the Board and the Borough shall have the opportunity to question the owner(s)/appellant(s) who make a presentation or otherwise offer testimony to the board)*
 - a. Matthew Ostrander, Appellant

Matthew Ostrander provided an opening statement.

- 3. Victim Statements *(15 minutes – the Board, the Borough, and the owner/appellant shall have the opportunity to question the victim or victim owner)*
 - a. William Recknagle *(Board will call Mr. Recknagle to testify telephonically)*

William Recknagle provided telephonic testimony.

Raegan Visker asked questions of William Recknagle.

Matthew Ostrander asked questions of William Recknagle.

4. Witness Statements (5 minutes - *the Board, Borough staff, and the owner/appellant shall have the opportunity to question witnesses*)

a. Angela Costa, Animal Care and Regulation Officer

Raegan Visker asked questions of Angela Costa.

Matthew Ostrander asked questions of Angela Costa.

- b. Any Witness Designated on Mr. Ostrander's list
- c. Any Witness Mentioned in the record on Appeal
- d. Any Witness Needed to Impeach the Testimony of Another Witness
- e. Any Witness Necessary to Lay the Foundation for the Admission into Evidence of any Exhibit or Document Contained in Mr. Ostrander's Exhibits
- f. Any Rebuttal Witness as May Become Apparent at the Time of the Hearing.

[Clerk's note: no witnesses were called to testify under items b. through f.]

Matthew Ostrander moved the board to submit late filed evidence, specifically, a recording from a witness that could not be present for the hearing.

Raegan Visker objected.

Chairperson Bowen requested a motion to enter into adjudicatory session to discuss the Appellant's motion.

MOTION: Terry Dennison moved to enter into adjudicatory session.

VOTE: There was no objection noted and the Board moved into adjudicatory session at 10:34 p.m.

MOTION: Terry Dennison moved to exit adjudicatory session.

VOTE: There was no objection noted and the Board exited adjudicatory session at 10:37 p.m.

Chairperson Bowen queried if the Board wanted to allow a witness for Mr. Ostrander to testify.

VOTE: The motion failed unanimously.

Chairperson Bowen queried if there was any objection to the Board calling Mr. Ostrander's witness.

There was no objection noted.

Ms. Henry requested the name and phone number of Mr. Ostrander's witness.

Matthew Ostrander stated that his witness's name is James Hartsfield and provided his number.

Ms. Henry dialed James Hartsfield and ensured he could hear the proceedings.

James Hartsfield provided his witness statement.

Matthew Ostrander asked questions of Mr. Hartsfield.

Raegan Visker asked questions of Mr. Hartsfield.

5. Closing Remarks by Animal Owner (*10 minutes collectively*)
 - a. Matthew Ostrander, Appellant

Matthew Ostrander provided closing remarks.

6. Closing Remarks by Borough (*10 minutes*)
 - a. Raegan Visker, Legal Intern

Raegan Visker provided closing remarks.

IV. ADJUDICATORY SESSION

MOTION: Terry Dennison moved to enter into adjudicatory session.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection and the Board entered into adjudicatory session at 10:51 a.m.

MOTION: Terry Dennison moved to exit adjudicatory session.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection and the Board entered into adjudicatory session at 11:31 a.m.

Acting Chairperson Bowen requested that Ms. Henry read the draft final decision into the record.

Ms. Henry read the draft final decision into the record.

MOTION: Terry Dennison moved to approve the final decision as read into the record by the Clerk.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

Acting Chairperson Bowen queried if the Board would like to take a brief recess or continue with the regular meeting.

The Board opted to continue with the regular meeting.

Ms. Henry advised the Board that Becky Bond-Knuth, a newly appointed member of the Board, was in the audience, had completed her oath of office, and invited her to the dais to participate in the regular board meeting.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

(Immediately following appeal hearing. The Board may recess briefly before conducting the regular meeting)

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. April 25, 2025

Chairperson Bowen queried if there were any changes to the minutes.

GENERAL CONSENT: The minutes were approved as presented without objection.

Chairperson Bowen queried if there were any changes to the minutes as presented.

The minutes were approved as presented.

II. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3 minutes each)

There was no one present who wished to testify.

III. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. Report from Animal Care and Regulation Staff

Matt Hardwig, Chief Animal Care and Regulation Officer, reported on the activities of the shelter.

B. Discussion regarding possible request for removal of member confirmed on February 18, 2025, pursuant to MSB 4.05.030(2)

Ms. Henry noted that the Board had Destiny O'Daniel confirmed in February of this year and that Ms. O'Daniel had failed to execute her oath of office and had not responded to any email, texts or phone calls that were sent to her. Advised that the last time a request like this was made, it was for a member who had been participating on the Board but had acted inappropriately. Noted that code provides for the Board to request removal of Ms. O'Daniel for failing to assume the duties of the office.

Chairperson Bowen queried if the Board had any objection to requesting the Mayor to remove Ms. O'Daniel.

There was no objection noted.

Ms. Henry advised that she would email Madam Mayor with the request.

V. BOARD COMMENTS

There were no comments provided.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
ANIMAL CARE AND REGULATION BOARD

DANIEL BOWEN, Chairperson

ATTEST:

BRENDA J. HENRY, MMC
Assistant Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: