



City of Las Cruces[®]

MOUNTAINS OF OPPORTUNITY

Animal Care Task Force Agenda

The following is the Agenda for the City of Las Cruces Animal Care Task Force for August 31, 2020 at 2:30 p.m., via Zoom.

1. Call To Order
2. Approval Of Minutes
June 26, 2020
July 31, 2020

Documents:

[CLC ANIMAL CARE TASK FORCE_MINUTES 06-26-2020 - DRAFT.PDF](#)
[CLC ANIMAL CARE TASK FORCE_MINUTES 07-31-2020 - DRAFT.PDF](#)

3. Topics - Discussion Only
 1. Draft Ordinance
 2. Action on the Ordinance
4. Action Items
5. Other Discussion Items
6. Adjournment

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Date Posted: 8/25/2020



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2 The following are summary minutes for the meeting of the **City of Las Cruces - Animal Care**
3 **Task Force** for June 26, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. The meeting took place via ZOOM with attendees
4 logged onto their personal computers or smartphone.

5
6 **Members Present:**

7 David Dollahon, Assistant City Manager for Operations
8 Yvonne Flores, City Councilor Dist. 6
9 Gino Jimenez, City ACO Supervisor
10 Clint Thacker, ASCMV Executive Director
11 Gina Roberts, Dona Ana County ACO Case Manager
12 Geri Wheelis, Boarding Director for Calista Animal Hospital
13 Athena Huckaby, Colony Manager
14 Jean Gilbert, Human Society of Southern NM
15 Jackye Meinecke, Coalition for Pets and People

16
17 **Others Present:**

18 Michel Meunier, Action Programs for Animals
19 Dr. Gary Roemer, NMSU Wildlife Professor
20 Robert Cabello, Sr. Assistant City Attorney
21 Marcy Scott, Citizen
22
23

24 **Call to order – 2:30 p.m.**

25
26 **David Dollahon:** Alright, so I'm gonna call this meeting to order and I'll share the screen
27 with my agenda. We don't have minutes and we are recording. If you don't want to appear
28 on the video you can stop sharing your video, that's fine. It just takes up extra bandwidth.

29
30 Michel and Dr. Roemer both handed out items. Today is a discussion only so we're gonna
31 get information from Michel and then also further information from Dr. Roemer and we can
32 have a dialogue with each of them. We're pretty good about maintaining our time. So, we'd
33 like to be out of here by four o'clock, so it's 2:30 to 4 if we end early we end early if we don't
34 we go to four o'clock. I do want to talk about some other discussion items, that's next
35 meetings and potential next steps. So, with that, Michel I'm going to stop sharing my video
36 again and I'm going to turn it over to you. I can open your attachments if you need to, that I
37 emailed to everyone just a few minutes ago. I did that earlier first and then I did with Dr.
38 Roemer as well. And you should have them in your email box, but I can open them and
39 share them if you need me to.

40
41 **Michel Meunier:** No, I don't need you to share them. I just wanted them for additional
42 information for everyone, you know, separately.

43
44 I can't figure out how to get my camera to work, but I'm Michel Meunier the director of Action
45 Programs for Animals. For people that don't know who we are, we're an animal welfare
46 nonprofit in Las Cruces, we run the pet food bank and we rescue animals from mostly from
47 the shelter. So, we rescue a lot of cats and kittens. We're greatly affected by the way our

1 community and our animal control leaders handle cats in our community. So, what we
2 recommend, and what we've been promoting for now going on 10 years, is trap, neuter,
3 return, community cat programming to better handle our community cat and overpopulation
4 issues that still trouble us today. As it is, as in the shelter, we're at the front lines with the
5 cats that are taken to the shelter. Not all cats belong there. No matter how much a lot of us
6 would like there not to be free roaming cats there will always be them. And if you have been
7 with us for all these years we've been trying to work toward no kill.

8
9 You will see that we haven't dropped the number of cats coming into the shelter and a big
10 part of that is because I don't think we are addressing the issue the best way we could
11 which is working with people on mitigating community cats or helping people when they're
12 having issues with community cats versus just hauling them into the shelter and killing them.
13 When you do that the issue is you're not reducing the population. The benefits of TNR are
14 many. It's a non-lethal approach and alternative to the trap and kill we've been doing here
15 for decades. It helps reduce taxpayer dollars once you start reducing the cats coming into
16 the shelter. It helps reduce all the calls that animal control gets for nuisances.

17
18 What we're doing now we're taking cats out of an area and they just repopulate. It's not
19 helping. When you fix them and leave them in place they are safer, they don't practice a lot
20 of the bad behaviors that cats do when they're unfixed and it helps protect the public health
21 as well.

22
23 When it comes to even wildlife, because I know people, wildlife advocates, and I'm an
24 advocate for all animals actually I'm a vegetarian. I don't just like cats and dogs. Bird
25 populations are also protected by TNR, because you're reducing the number of cats. It's
26 going to take a lot of years. I'm not going to lie that it's an overnight fix but it's definitely a
27 better alternative to what we're doing right now.

28
29 Our group rescues more than 300 cats and kittens from the shelter every year and it's been
30 like that now for seven years and there doesn't seem to be any end in sight not as long as
31 we're doing things opposite of what's recommended by all the big animal welfare groups in
32 the United States. Myself and Clint can talk about how best friends animal society and their
33 community cat program is helping us. They give us grants, they provide trainings, they
34 provide a lot of resources to communities and municipalities willing to work with them on
35 properly handling the community cat issues.

36
37 I understand the different perspectives. I understand the wildlife perspective. I understand
38 Animal Control needing to respond to people complaining. One of the things that groups like
39 ours can do is work with people in the community on what the specific issue is on their
40 property with free roaming cats. If there are a lot of free roaming cats in an area it's because
41 someone is providing food or shelter for them. They wouldn't be there otherwise. So this
42 approach actually works with people to find out who are the people caring for these cats
43 causing the problem. How can we use deterrence and other methods to keep cats away
44 from the property of people that don't want them there? Also, how can we place cats that
45 truly need to be removed from an area. Let's say there's really an area they really should not
46 be there. Then there's alternatives like barn cat programs and shop cat programs. I will say,
47 we've been placing a lot of barn and shop cats in the last three years. Before that people
48 here didn't understand what those programs were or how they worked towards their
49 advantage. There are some municipalities that even use community cats in their properties
50 for rodent and vermin control. So, there's always alternatives. If you just work with people
51 instead of working against them and working against nature.

1
2 So, trap and kill really works against nature. That's why you'll see if you look at the shelter
3 statistics, we're not doing much to lower the populations doing what we're doing now,
4 especially in the City of Las Cruces.

5
6 I sent you all of the current resources from best friends animal society about TNR talking
7 points and other information for you to read and evaluate and I do wish you would do so. I
8 wish Animal Control leadership here would also work with best friends because they're
9 willing to work with municipalities as well. That's all I have for now.

10
11 **David Dollahon:** Thanks, Michelle.

12
13 Does anybody have any questions? We may have to revisit this because the handouts
14 came out so late today. We may need to give people opportunity to read and digest and
15 have you back at the next meeting.

16
17 **Athena Huckaby:** I was just gonna say thank you very much, Michel for the handouts. I
18 definitely am a TNR advocate as well as a wildlife advocate.

19
20 I think that one of the problems that we have, though in this task force is like reconciling
21 those positions and making them come together. Marcy and I for example, have had a lot of
22 conversations about how at the end of the day, we both agree with things like trying to find
23 more money for people to build enclosed cat spaces, right, because ideally we don't want
24 cats necessarily roaming in the community, you know, and that there are ways to reconcile
25 the position. So, the only thing that I would point out is that, you know, just as I feel like the
26 Audubon Society is slanted toward a certain view I also think best friends is slanted toward
27 a certain view and I'd love to see some, like, you know, in the middle sort of materials that
28 reconcile these two positions and talk about how we can have a TNR program that also has
29 the least impact on wildlife possible if that makes sense.

30
31 **Michel Meunier:** I think it's unrealistic to think that all people who care for community cats
32 are going to build enclosures. I certainly think that....

33
34 **Athena Huckaby:** I think that's unrealistic too, but I think that allowing for money for that is
35 something that we've talked about.

36
37 **Michel Meunier:** Definitely, but I'm saying I think a lot of people who do care for community
38 cats wouldn't mind that. There's things like cat fencing. There's a lot of good deterrents,
39 someone would have to go help people place deterrents because a lot of times they don't
40 place them right. There's motion sensor sprinklers. There's things you can put on top of
41 fences that have spikes, you know, so cats don't jump into yards where they're unwanted. I
42 would say for the cat people and the public health people you have to look at TNR in that
43 we're not saying we love all these free roaming cats out there bothering people we don't
44 either, because we have to deal with the other end of it. We have to deal with all the sick
45 cats and kittens coming into the shelter and we work our you know what off every year
46 saving 350 animals. It's not easy. It's hard to place them locally, because we do have
47 overpopulation of cats here. So we have to transport a lot of them out of the area where
48 they're not as overpopulated. But the reason these areas are not as overpopulated is
49 because they are practicing TNR and it's not just best friends. All of the national agencies
50 support this kind of community cat programming, you're talking about even the national
51 Animal Control Association supports it. So it's not just best friends. Let me just, you know,

1 put that in there because we start reducing those populations, you have a colony of fixed
2 set.... Let's say, I don't feed outdoor cats personally, but let's say I have 30 outdoor cats in
3 my area and I fix them all, they maintain that colony and they don't allow others and they
4 stop procreating so you have less and less cats over the years, look at somewhere like
5 Jacksonville. Lowering the number of cats means you're lowering the number of birds that
6 are going to be killed by cats. So that's where I think the bird advocates have to just face
7 reality. And I don't mean to be rude, but you have to face reality that cats are not going
8 away. And this is not working. How can we help the cats and the birds? This is the only
9 proven way. If there is another way....

10
11 **Athena Huckaby:** That I mean so again...

12
13 **David Dollahon:** Wait, wait, wait, wait. I'm gonna insist that you not talk over one another.
14 There's also raise your hand on the button on the screen. So I will run a very tight ship, y'all.
15 So that's just being respectful for one another and it helps with meeting transcription. So,
16 Michel, if you could finish up and then Athena, I will come to you next, I promise.

17
18 **Michel Meunier:** Yes, I forgot what my, my last point was going to be, I guess my last point
19 was going to be if there comes another way to take care of this issue that is more humane
20 for all we would support it too. I actually support what's more humane for everyone involved.
21 The human beings involved with killing these cats at the shelter that has a detrimental effect
22 on them. The cats themselves and the birds, as I said, I am an advocate of all animals, not
23 just birds and not just cats. I've been a vegetarian for 30 plus years because of that. So I do
24 care deeply about all of this. Just wanted to let you know we go with what is working
25 nationwide, and this is the only thing working elsewhere nationwide. I'm not saying it's
26 without its problems, but it's a better alternative. I'll just leave it at that. Thank you.

27
28 **David Dollahon:** Athena.

29
30 **Athena Huckaby:** Yeah, and thank you for that, you know, Michel, just one more, you
31 know, I've been a TNR advocate for many years. I've run TNR programs of my own. I
32 started doing it in Phoenix, back when I was 19 years old. I'm 42, so yeah, I definitely you
33 know, again, I want to, you know, I'm not trying to make you defensive or, you know,
34 indicate to you that I don't agree.

35
36 What I'm trying to say is that one of the things that we've had a challenge with on the
37 committee is that the TNR advocates, take the position that TNR is proven and works and
38 the wildlife advocates, take the position that it is unproven and does not work, which I think
39 is about what Dr. Roemer is about to talk to us about right. So, I previewed his website, you
40 know, the very first thing it says on the bottom right, you know, cat advocates are wrong
41 TNR doesn't work. Here are a lot of articles showing why it doesn't work. So, there's peer
42 reviewed studies that show that it works, and that it doesn't work, right, and so I think that
43 we've kind of come to understand, or at least I'd like everybody to sort of remember that the
44 results on TNR are mixed and then it depends on how we apply it in our community, you
45 know, as to whether it's going to work. And so the point that I was making was just that
46 middle of the road sources are really what I would like to see as opposed to, you know,
47 things that are....because I feel like both sides are not really talking to each other. They're
48 just saying this doesn't work and the other side says it doesn't work. And then there's no
49 conversation. So again, just, you know, Marcy and I have had a lot of productive
50 conversations, despite our being on opposite sides of the fence and I just wanted to you
51 know, point out that I think that that's possible. That's all. Because I think Dr. Roemer is

1 about to probably give us a wonderful presentation about all of the ways that TNR doesn't
2 work.

3
4 **David Dollahon:** I don't know, I'm not going to speak for Dr. Roemer, but I'm going to say, I
5 don't think Dr Roemer is going to go that hard line because he talked to me about tools, but
6 I'm gonna jump to Councilor Flores, and then Marcy you're next.

7
8 **Councilor Flores:** I thank you. Thank you very much, Mr. Dollahon and thank you for
9 running the ship. I very much appreciate what you've said, Michel. I love wildlife. I love
10 animals and, you know, spend money to all sorts of organizations and we are here for the
11 purpose of this task force is to have everybody submit their points of view, discuss them and
12 we are here, we, we will have to come to a middle ground. Is everybody going to be happy?
13 No, it's almost like a bargaining collaboration here you know, everybody's going to go away
14 winning something, everybody's going to go away losing something. So, if we enter this in
15 that spirit and it sounds like Ms. Meunier so far has presented good evidence and I hope to
16 see the documents that she sent over to presumably David Dollahon and we'll be able to
17 review them and but based on what Ms. Meunier said, she said that a lot of animal shelters
18 and organizations throughout the United States have adopted this measure of TNR and
19 there is....I don't think she'd be saying that there's been a reduction in the cat population as
20 a result of that practice if it didn't exist. Why would she lie or why would anybody want to
21 challenge that and is it going to be perfect? No. And I think that the Audubon Society
22 definitely has a say in the stake.

23
24 But again, we're here as a group from the community to make that decision for our
25 community. And I don't think we have to be adversarial and I don't think we have to in any
26 way minimize what anyone is saying. Thank you, Mr. Dollahon.

27
28 **Marcy Scott:** I just wanted to jump on what Athena said, I hope we are not going to go
29 backwards here. We are starting to recognize that there's some push and pull, and I think
30 there is a middle ground that is appropriate for Las Cruces.

31
32 If you go to either extreme we're not going to get anywhere. There are going to be situations
33 where it is not appropriate to have cats at all as we started to work out the mapping, and I
34 appreciate the city, whoever that was that put together those maps, David. That was that's
35 wonderful because that's very instructive and I think there are places where enclosures if we
36 can get some funding make a lot of sense for both protecting public health, but also
37 protecting birds and what I think a lot of the cat advocates don't fully appreciate is how
38 special a place that Las Cruces is for wildlife. It is incredibly diverse. We are in a very, very
39 special place for migratory birds in particular being this narrow ribbon of green through the
40 desert, that is highly trafficked by thousands of birds every year. And yes, they are very
41 vulnerable to cats. A lot of that paper information about TNR does not fully appreciate the
42 damages that cats can do to migratory birds. Yes, I, I understand that the best friends has a
43 lot of good information about the TNR program, but I think we need to take the opinions
44 about the damages to wildlife with a grain of salt because I don't think they fully apply to our
45 situation here in Las Cruces.

46
47 The Council did recently put out a proclamation about protecting migratory birds and not
48 adopting policies that put them in jeopardy and I'll be happy to enclose or attach a copy of
49 that because I finally got ahold of it but just a non thinking widespread TNR program would
50 not be applicable or be a good idea with Las Cruces. I think what Athena is saying about
51 trying to find the right situations for different areas of the community makes a lot more

1 sense. And I think we have made a lot of progress towards coming in the middle to see that
2 some things are going to work in some places, other things are not so advisable. So thank
3 you, Michelle. And thank you David for letting me talk and I'll, I'll shut up now. Okay.

4
5 **Councilor Flores:** Thank you for what you said Ms. Scott and I'm sure that what you're
6 saying you believe in what you're saying, but I need to see the data. I need to see, and
7 perhaps Ms. Meunier too can provide the data, that shows how migratory birds have been
8 affected by or continue to be affected by TNR practices. She mentioned Jacksonville being
9 very, being successful. I think I would have to see that data. I really would encourage
10 everyone to just sit back and look at everything that is going to be beneficial for everyone
11 concerned and I don't think we have to again minimize anything anyone else was saying.
12 But Ms. Scott, do you have that data and I know, I don't know if that, I don't know, I
13 remember somebody at a meeting a long time ago, presenting on birds, but I can't...She's
14 not, she hasn't been at the meetings lately, but it is...

15
16 **Marcy Scott:** I have been to several meetings and I'd be happy to put together a
17 bibliography of some of the most recent studies on in general. But, as I have said at a
18 couple other meetings before....

19
20 **Yvonne Flores:** Excuse me Ms. Scott I wasn't done and you have to raise your hand to be
21 recognized by the facilitator. I don't mean to be rude, but I'm not done.

22
23 **Marcy Scott:** I thought you were asking me, I'm sorry.

24
25 **Yvonne Flores:** No. No, I was just putting a, well um, it would, and it isn't so much
26 bibliographies and...But to have a, you know, show us the data, you know show us what we
27 need to do here because I don't know if everybody who attends the task force would have
28 the time to go through a bibliography list. And frankly, I just don't have that time. I think that
29 a lot of us have been working at by just data driven information, the data has to be shown
30 on a chart, it has to be, there has to be a scientific correlation between what you're
31 proposing and what the end result is so and so that's what I'm asking. And yes, you have
32 been at meetings and thank you so much and I'm glad that you're advocating for birds, but
33 we do have to look at the, you know, the greater good here.

34
35 **David Dollahon:** Michel, you're next. And then I want to get to Dr. Roemer who is, I don't
36 know if he's on vacation yet or he's working on getting on vacation for a three week
37 motorcycle ride so, I hope he's going someplace cool.

38
39 **Michel Meunier:** Okay, I just wanted to address Ms. Scott that I for one am not one of those
40 that diminishes or...there, there are some people who care for cats. I will... I've talked to
41 these people on the phone. They don't care anything about how the cats are nuisance to
42 anyone else or anything that the cats do. Cats are not perfect creatures. They can be feral
43 and wild, they can range from being very feral to very friendly. So, I do not diminish the fact
44 that wildlife is affected that neighbors are affected.

45
46 We try to talk to people. I have been called the B word multiple times when people coming
47 in and I'm telling them, do not feed cats if you're not going to be responsible for them, if
48 you're not going to fix them. If you're not going to do the right thing. You're not helping them
49 or the community by doing that. So I will say I do see all the sides, um, but what concerns
50 me about the wildlife side sometimes you talked about the cat side being on the one
51 extreme and not caring about the wildlife. For the wildlife advocates, I would ask then what

1 is the alternative because the catch and kill is not working and hasn't worked for decades.
2 So, if it's not TNR then what is it? That's just, you know, I'm always open to new ideas. Just
3 wanted to say that. Thank you.
4

5 **Gary Roemer:** Okay, so first I'm not against TNR. Okay. However, I think when you look at
6 from the first principles of population dynamics, that trying to control cat populations through
7 reproductive means only doesn't work unless you're in a relatively closed population that
8 doesn't have emigration and immigration and unless you can sterilize a very large portion of
9 the cat population. David, can I share my screen?
10

11 **David Dollahon:** Sure.
12

13 **Gary Roemer:** Okay. So, um, let me start with this. So this is an analysis that basically
14 shows the level of either survival reduction or fecundity reduction. So reproduction reduction
15 that would have to occur to drive population growth rate below one. Okay, so when
16 population growth rate λ , this value is equal to one, it means there's no change in
17 population size. So from an analysis that we did you can see here that if you sterilize 75% of
18 females that you still have a population that's growing by 8% per year. If you increase the
19 mortality. Now I'm gonna take this a step back. I'm saying mortality from the standpoint of a
20 population but let's look at it this way, removing animals from the population, rather than
21 mortality. If you increase the amount of removal you have you can get to the level where
22 you remove 50% of the animals and you can have a reduction in population size. So from
23 first principles of population dynamics just sterilizing animals doesn't work unless you can
24 sterilize a very large percentage of the population and that's often impossible to do with a
25 wild or feral cat population because you're never going to catch enough animals to sterilize
26 that many.
27

28 So there's been discussions that TNR programs work and I want to give me an example of
29 one. So this is a feral cat program that was an operation for 23 years in Florida, Key Largo,
30 mind you and it worked, but (inaudible) eleven cats returned back to the original location
31 and 1419 cats removed via adoption, transfer to the adoption center, euthanasia, died in
32 care or outcome of dead on arrival. So regardless of how you remove the animals from a
33 population perspective when you remove a large portion of the animals, you're going to
34 result in a population decline.
35

36 You have to remove a lot in order for that to occur, but keeping that in mind, let's do a little
37 thought experiment. Let's say you've got 100 female cats out there and 50 of them you
38 sterilize and 50 of them are still capable of breeding. So you're only able to sterilize half the
39 population and typically a wild cat is going to have a litter size from two to five and they'll
40 also, I have to look back at their survival rates for the kittens, but let's just say that those 50
41 cats can produce one cat. Okay, so you have 100 cats you sterilized 50 you now have 50
42 cats and now they produce one cat. How many cats do we have after a year?
43

44 **David Dollahon:** 150.
45

46 **Gary Roemer:** Great. So now let's say you do the same thing, but instead of sterilizing
47 those 50 cats, you remove them from the population, however that is, through adoption
48 through whatever. Now you have 50 cats leftover and they produce a kitten. How many cats
49 do you have?
50

51 **David Dollahon:** 100.

1
2 **Gary Roemer:** So that's my general point you know that when you do TNR yes you leave
3 those cats back into the environment, right, but that doesn't necessarily cause a reduction in
4 population size unless you can sterilize a large percentage of the cat population.

5
6 So then there were some thought, you know, like maybe, or maybe there wasn't any about
7 (inaudible) the number of cats in the US population back in 2010 and you can see we're
8 getting up around 80 or 90 million cats that we know of in the United States, right. And I
9 might add, it's very hard to estimate abundances so you have to take these estimates with a
10 grain of salt but nonetheless, there's a lot of cats in the United States. And so then, finally,
11 what I'd like to, to end with, in a sense, and we can go back and forth and have various
12 discussions about you know what we could do to cat populations. And again, I'm not against
13 TNR because if you can sterilize a high proportion of the population and if you can adopt a
14 lot of animals, it can work. Okay.

15
16 But recently, there was a paper that came out on the decline of the North American
17 avifauna. And just to show you these numbers here. In the past, 1970 – 2010, we have lost
18 3 billion birds. That's an estimate of the abundance of birds that is declined across the
19 United States in this 40 to 50 year period. Okay, and most bird groups have declined, only a
20 few bird groups have actually increased or stabilized in abundance over this timeframe.

21
22 Cats are not the only factor, of course habitat destruction, pesticides, over harvest a lot of
23 factors are contributing to the declines in bird populations but invasive species like cats are
24 a major impact to bird populations. So what can we do? My advocacy is that you leave all
25 the tools you have on the table. If euthanasia is needed at times then you use it. You know
26 that's removing animals from the population. The idea that you should never kill a cat is
27 something that I don't think is a very good policy. Again I advocate TNR programs if they
28 can be implemented in a place where a large proportion of animals can be sterilized and a
29 large proportion of animals can be adopted. But I don't think you should adopt a blanket
30 policy that you'll never kill a cat and you know my reasoning is because whether you
31 sterilize a cat or not, that cat still has an opportunity to kill wildlife and it will. I had a house
32 cat and I lived on the fifth floor of an apartment in Los Angeles and my house cat was
33 completely never went outside and I had a little balcony that was like five feet by two feet or
34 five feet by three feet wide. And one day I came home and there were mourning dove wings
35 in my apartment because a mourning dove landed on my balcony and my house cat killed a
36 mourning dove and when we brought her here she passed away here. We kept her inside
37 but a couple times she got out. I rescued a rockman from her mouth and I rescued a
38 hummingbird from her mouth, she killed two small rodents, and she killed some lizards and
39 she got out very, very infrequently. It was like one of those things where oops Hannah's got
40 loose again let's go look for her. So fed cats kill wildlife. So all I'm advocating for is that you
41 don't adopt the policy where euthanasia is completely thrown off the table because I think
42 it's a tool that you still have to have in your toolbox.

43
44 **Jackye Meinecke:** Okay, so most people are well aware that I'm a strong advocate for cats
45 and TNR. So I'm not even gonna go over all of that. I do like what Mr Roemer had to say
46 about keeping all our tools and I can't think of any TNR advocates in this community that
47 say to kill no cats or to remove euthanasia for from the table 100%. I've never even said that
48 and we know that, you know, I try to save everything I can. So even I would not say that
49 because euthanasia does have its place but I don't want it to be our only choice. So we're
50 kind of on the same point. He doesn't want it to be our only choice. I don't want it to be our
51 only choice either. So I like his list of tools. Certainly they are ones that are promoted by the

1 other TNR organizations as well. The whole idea of our original group, what was it, a
2 coalition of pets and people, that goes back a ways, but for those of us who are from back a
3 ways, that particular group was no kill on the understanding that at least 10% or more would
4 still end up being killed because of other reasons. Too feral or too sick or too old or various
5 different things, sick and old would be the main ones. Although right now it's mostly about
6 being feral.

7
8 So I don't think anyone in our community actively says, we don't want any euthanasia of any
9 cats of any kind. That has just never happened in this community since I've been here. So
10 just to get that on the table and let people know that that's not a standard TNR stance that
11 we won't kill any cat at any time for any reason.

12
13 **Yvonne Flores:** Thank you, Dr. Roemer for your presentation. I noticed that some of those
14 dates the graphs were about 10 years old and so I don't know how current your graph
15 information was. And the other question I have is the environmental factors that affect birds.
16 I know that studies have been done decades upon decades. I mean, I remember Congress
17 passing like a multi million or billion dollar act I was in law school and we read about it and
18 we thought they care about migratory birds and we're starving you know law students, you
19 know, fighting to get grants and scholarships. So, and that was like 1000 years ago but
20 what...because that was when the EPA, I guess it was in the 70s shortly after President
21 Nixon passed the Wildlife Protection Act or whatever it was. Yeah, something like that. Um,
22 so did the studies that you reviewed indicate whether those deaths, the graphs that you
23 have the most recent studies that you reviewed indicate whether the death of the birds were
24 caused by you know the percentages of how many cats cause of death and what the
25 environmental factors because back then. I mean, we're talking about what 50 years ago
26 there was a there was a big concern about environmental factors and now that we know all
27 about climate change and everything the detriment it's had on our environment and our...do
28 you have a breakdown of that, the impact?

29
30 **Gary Roemer:** This particular published paper only goes to 2010. So, but if you look at this,
31 so this would be considered a type of regression and so it's a correlation between the
32 number of house cats relative to time and you can see that there's a very positive trajectory.
33 So I would imagine that this is continuing and there are other estimates of the number of
34 house cats made by other papers, and I can dig those out for you that show that you know
35 house cats are probably well over 100 million house cats in United States, and these are the
36 ones that you can count.

37
38 So you asked for, you know, is there data on this. It's very difficult to count the number of
39 individuals that are in, say, a wild population. Now, you can't just go out and find everybody,
40 let's say in a in a parcel of land because you'll never be able to detect all animals that are
41 there to 100%.

42
43 **Yvonne Flores:** My question, Dr. Roemer, I think it seems like I wasn't clear, so forgive me.

44
45 **Gary Roemer:** Yeah, your other question had to do with the data on what is the contribution
46 of bird losses that might be attributable to house cats, per se.

47
48 **Yvonne Flores:** What is the data as compared to the environment.

49
50 **Gary Roemer:** Well, again, you're asking for some times (inaudible) that I can't answer
51 because that's a very difficult thing to do. And so what people end up doing is they might

1 study a lot of, you know, prey items that are brought back to a household. So this would
2 be someone who has an indoor, outdoor housecat. And that person might record the
3 number of prey items over a certain amount of time. And then they would take that
4 information and they would scale it up and say, okay, well, if these 100 cats brought in this
5 many prey items how many is 100 million cats going to kill?
6

7 So it's very difficult to come up with that kind of data, but that's the way people do it. And
8 there's several studies that have been done in different communities to show that cats take
9 birds they take small mammals, they take lizards and etc. These are indoor/outdoor house
10 cats. They're not feral cats. So understanding what feral cats do typically, you have to track
11 the animals get scat samples and then do an assessment of their food habits in order to
12 figure out what they might be foraging on and then try to scale that up. In the other study
13 that I showed, which was this one, this is an assessment basically of utilizing breeding birds
14 survey data that has been recorded across the United States for about 50 years and just
15 showing that there's been a decline in the numbers of birds over that period of time at
16 roughly an estimate of 3 billion individuals. Now of those 3 billion birds can we say how
17 many were (inaudible) to cats? No. All we can say at this point is given these data is that
18 there's 3 billion fewer birds now than there were in the past and that those factors that are
19 contributing to those declines are anthropogenic usually, they're all related to human issues,
20 and they're varied and a lot has to do with habitat loss, pesticide, over harvest and invasive
21 species of which feral cats will be considered an invasive species.
22

23 So if you (inaudible) information on feral cat impacts on the bird populations, then you'd
24 have to go maybe more directly to places like the American Bird Conservancy or the
25 Audubon, which are basically going to be similar to the humane organizations that
26 (inaudible) programs. These are bird conservation organizations and they're going to
27 present you the same sorts of information, but perhaps from a different viewpoint.
28

29 The scientific evidence is out there that cats definitely impact wildlife. There's no question
30 about it. I can provide you with a lot of resources that show feral cat impact, not only in
31 continental United States, for example, islands, where they've been introduced by accident
32 and have wreaked havoc on endangered species because islands typically have a lot of
33 endemic species that are found nowhere else in the world. Breeding seabirds in that
34 removal of cats from those islands has resulted in conservation successes, bringing back
35 organisms that were close to the brink of extinction. But now you're in a situation, we're not
36 in an island, we're in a big community, we have a city, we have outlying areas that we may
37 consider more wild. So there's an urban wild interface. And there's no way you're going to
38 be able to implement a complete TNR program that's going to control all of those cats. It's
39 impossible to trap that many animals and to sterilize that many animals to reduce population
40 size. You're not going to be able to do it ever.
41

42 TNR programs will work in a very limited number of situations where perhaps there's a lack
43 of immigration and emigration of cats into a population. And where you can sterilize a large
44 proportion of them and or adopt or remove a large proportion of them. But when you think
45 about using TNR to control feral cat populations it's not going to work. There's a lot of
46 evidence out there and if you look at it from a population dynamics perspective, the first
47 principles of population dynamics, it's not going to work either. So, some of the information
48 that you're asking for is just not estimates that you guys can make.
49

1 **Yvonne Flores:** I see. So no one can look at any data that shows that cats are dying
2 because of the environment or the percentage of cats who are dying that are dying is
3 attributable to the environment?
4

5 **Gary Roemer:** Well, I'm not sure what you mean.
6

7 **Yvonne Flores:** I'm talking about. I'm talking about climate change issues, you know, we
8 have all this junk out in the air. The environment is basically a trash can and I'm not talking
9 about plastic bags, I'm talking about the air quality and migration (inaudible) that have been
10 going on for a long time.
11

12 **Gary Roemer:** There obviously are changes to our environment that are wrought by
13 humans that can affect all life you know ourselves included, but what percentage of that
14 causes mortality in cats, I would have no idea how to even estimate that. The only thing that
15 you can do really is you can mark cats or radio collar cats and then look at their survival
16 rates and estimate their survival rates and that would be like a local type of project or you
17 could also estimate their fecundities so you could map their population dynamics. But just
18 like anything that we pool in wildlife population dynamics you know, you're basically
19 sampling a population and you have uncertainty around all of your estimates and so there's
20 no way to really say, yeah, these 100 million cats kill 1 billion birds a year. It might be 1
21 billion birds a year plus or minus 500 million. It's really hard to estimate but from studies that
22 have been conducted, it's pretty clear that cats have an impact on wildlife and that TNR is
23 useful under certain circumstances but that it's not the end all panacea for cat control.
24

25 **Yvonne Flores:** Thank you, Dr. Roemer. Thank you so much.
26

27 **Athena Huckaby:** Dr. Roemer, thank you very much. I thought your presentation was well
28 rounded and presented the evidence and thank you for the papers. I really appreciate being
29 able to, you know, read Peer Review studies right from journals. So thank you.
30

31 **Michel Meunier:** So I just wanted to ask, or just discuss a few things that came up, as I
32 hear other people talking, um, I will say that a lot of the animal welfare national groups are
33 in support of TNR. Which one of those groups have actual stats? I think the best case might
34 be Best Friends. I was on a conference call with them earlier today about the granted funds
35 they gave us to help cats this year here and they said they had 2019 data and statistics or
36 something so I'm mass emailing them and asking them to send any and all actual data, they
37 actually have and I will forward that to you all when I get it. So, your national groups that
38 support it are the Humane Society United States, ASPCA, NACA, all of the large groups
39 support this method, and I won't say it's perfect, but I don't think anything is. You talk about,
40 Mr. Roemer, talked about some of these islands that have eradicated cats and how it has
41 helped bird populations, but from some of the things I've read too and I would like to ask
42 you, is it true that in some of these areas there's a horrible increase also in vermin, so you
43 have to think of everything that's affected by having cats around and not having cats
44 around. Maybe the goal is not to eradicate all cats but just to greatly reduce them so it helps
45 everyone involved, including us the rescuers. Thank you.
46

47 **Gary Roemer:** Okay, so this is a paper that reviews feral cat eradication on islands and so I
48 can send that off to you all but again this is a situation where cats were eradicated because
49 they were causing declines and/or pushing certain species toward extinction. So there
50 would be no reason to try and simply reduce the population size because that'd be
51 something you'd have to continue to do for the long haul in order to make sure that there are

1 too few predators on the islands to potentially impact these native species. So feral cat
2 eradication, for example in this one, successful eradication programs were trapping,
3 hunting, often with dogs. So I've been involved in certain types of eradication programs on
4 islands where we use trapping and then euthanasia or we use weapons or in some cases
5 other groups have used Jack Russell Terriers to hunt down cats and eliminate them and
6 basically the whole idea is to get rid of the cats and you have to get rid of the cats in this
7 situation because they're causing the extinction of endemic species of birds that are found
8 nowhere else in the world and from my perspective that's more important than, you know,
9 the hundred million cats or more that we have just in the United States. So obviously, I'm a
10 wildlife biologist right I value wildlife more than I value our commensals. I have two dogs. I
11 love my dogs. We never want to see them hurt.

12
13 The information that you presented about, you know, the support for TNR programs comes
14 from animal welfare organizations. These are organizations that care about pets and that's
15 great, I care about pets, you know, but the problem is that many of these people who are
16 involved in animal welfare do not understand population dynamics and they do not
17 understand how difficult it is to implement things that can reduce populations. Wildlife
18 biologists have been doing this for quite some time now and all I'm suggesting is that I'm not
19 against TNR programs. I think they can work in certain cases. Especially again where you
20 don't have emigration and immigration into a particular colony. I think that if you, you know,
21 can sterilize a very large portion of the population then they can reduce cat numbers.

22
23 But as far as that being a method to control feral cats in and around Dona Ana County,
24 again, I think you're coming from your heart and you're not coming from your mind because
25 we cannot do that. It isn't going to work.

26
27 If you want, you know, give me a bunch of money and I'll go out there and study feral cats
28 and I'll try to give you an estimate of how many feral cats are running around out in Las
29 Cruces, and we'll do a survey of how many cats there are and what's their reproductive rate
30 and what's their survival rate and then I'll do a population dynamics model. We can go that
31 route, if you want, to this local population. But again, it can work under certain situations, but
32 it's not going to work under all situations. So that's all I'm advocating

33
34 **Athena Huckaby:** Thank you again for that, Dr. Roemer, I just wanted to point out, I think,
35 similar to what Jackie said, you know, just to keep things clear that in this task force I don't
36 think any of us, you know, certainly we're not saying that we want to eliminate the things
37 that we're doing now. I think we need to keep in mind that currently animal control is
38 complaint driven. So, it's not as if animal control in Las Cruces is out there taking the
39 initiative to reduce cat populations, right, that's not happening at all. You guys do great
40 work. I just mean that like somebody has to call and complain about cats right and then
41 Animal Control responds and usually they drop off traps and the person traps the cats
42 themselves. So we're talking about adding TNR onto what we're already doing. We're not
43 talking about using it to replace anything. So I think that the conversation, you know, as you
44 said earlier needs to be, you, Dr. Roemer, said, you know, we want to add this as a tool to
45 the toolbox within our ordinance in a way that we can use it most effectively and also, you
46 know, continue to explore options to control the cat population in Las Cruces. So, you know
47 I guess just to, I think that what gets lost sometimes when we have these conversations is
48 that TNR, yes, maybe only works in certain areas but we're not saying we want to eliminate
49 what Las Cruces is doing now and replace it with only TNR right. So, you know, just to make
50 that point.

51

1 I would love to give you a bunch of money and do a study actually. I think that's a really
2 good idea because I don't think that we have...you know, Councilor Flores is asking for data
3 and we don't have local data on the...we have local data on intakes for the shelter, which
4 we can sort of extrapolate to think about cat populations but not really, right. And so to have
5 local data about our population of cats. Where are they located. What is their reproductive
6 rate. Is what we're doing now doing anything at all or is our cat population just continuing to
7 grow year over year. Why is Michel Meunier's organization, you know, rescuing 350 cats a
8 year with private money right that she's applying for through grants and all of the rest of this
9 stuff. How can we slow that down. I think the first step is to do a study. Absolutely.

10
11 **Clint Thacker:** Thank you very much. First of all, I want, Athena just pretty much said
12 everything I wanted to say, so I won't go into that. But secondly, I think this is a great
13 opportunity to do a study. If you think about it, the things that we're doing of implanting a
14 microchip on feral cats, we can track them with that when they come in again. Animal
15 Control officers can scan the cat. They can put the information in the shelter love we can
16 grab that information out, put it into a map like they're doing now. I mean, we have the basis
17 of a good study program that would be beneficial to see what's all coming in. However, for
18 that to happen, we would, we would have to be actively trapping cats. We can't rely just on
19 the animal control officers bringing it in on a complaint basis. If we were to do a TNR we
20 would have to do that anyways, even if we weren't doing a study program or not, we would
21 have to actually have people trapping cats, bring them in, in large scales. I also appreciated
22 Michel's presentation as well. Great information on both sides, and I, I really do believe we
23 can walk down the middle aisle here and use all of this as tools.

24
25 **Gary Roemer:** There are ways to estimate abundance of cats, if that's something that you
26 really are interested in doing, that does not necessarily require trapping them, but it does
27 require being able to identify individuals and this can be done using remote cameras. So if
28 we were to look in the urban wildlife interface and have remote cameras out there and
29 attracting cats to these remote cameras and as long as we could identify individuals
30 because of unique spot patterns or something like that we can use that information to get
31 estimates of abundance of cats in feral environments. If you were, you know, I haven't seen
32 any data from the shelters so I don't know what you guys have. But of course, you could use
33 animals that are registered as estimates of the number of cats that might be owned, you
34 know, which is different than unowned to cats. And we could do what's been done in the
35 past is questionnaires where people send information to cat owners and they asked them,
36 you know, would you help us. We're trying to find a way to minimize cat impacts on wildlife,
37 but yet you know we still care about cats. Can you tell us something about how many
38 animals, your cats bring home on a weekly basis. And so therefore you can get a measure
39 of the impact that cats might be having on wildlife.

40
41 So it all depends on what your guys's goals are and how you would end up designing a
42 study to address those goals or objectives. I'd be willing to work with you on certain things.
43 But, you know, to be honest with you at the outset, I don't really know what your goals are. I
44 mean, you know, is it to minimize the number of complaints, is it to actually try to control cat
45 populations, both the ones that are owned and the ones that are unowned. You know, and
46 for the former I would basically say well you know you need an education program to try and
47 teach people to sterilize their cats, so that they don't create more cats. I mean, I think that's
48 probably one of the most effective things that we can do. Or are you interested in their
49 impacts to wildlife or are you interested in comparing methodologies that would help to
50 reduce populations and whether or not those populations are urban or exurban or wild

1 (inaudible) type populations. So there's a lot of different things you know objectives that you
2 could have. And to be honest with you, I don't know what your objectives really are.

3
4 I think that's why when I had a meeting earlier with David, my only issue was, it sounded like
5 people were pushing for this idea that no cat should be killed. And again, if that's not the
6 case that's great, and I don't think you should just remove that as a tool and it sounds to me
7 like you know you're all willing to try to find a middle ground to reduce the cat population at
8 least the unowned cats and to minimize the impacts on wildlife, as well as to minimize your
9 impacts and your shelter, because I'm sure it's costing you guys a lot of money.

10
11 **Michel Meunier:** Just quickly, I want to tell Dr. Roemer and everyone thank you very much
12 for this meeting. I think we always need to have these dialogues. I do come to this from, of
13 course, the heart of course I love animals, what Dr. Roemer described on that island made
14 me cringe, what they were doing, but you know my dog eating little birds in my yard last
15 week also made me cringe. But, you know, nature is what it is. I did want to clarify, we
16 talked about no kill, no kill advocates in our group, it doesn't mean no euthanasia. There's
17 always times when it's in the best interest of animals to be euthanized. Like cat populations
18 when ferals are brought into the shelter, they should be tested. You shouldn't be releasing
19 any cats with feline leukemia, FIP, you know, back out into the environment. So I just, you
20 know, I think we can all come together and figure this out. I believe animal control and city
21 and the county probably have a lot of places that they know of that they get constant
22 complaints from that if they would work with us and help us try and help some of these
23 people willing to do something else besides trap the cats we're willing to help, we're always
24 here. Thank you.

25
26 **David Dollahon:** Thanks, Michelle. I'm going to share my screen real quick. This was the
27 draft ordinance where we were discussing last meeting and I am going to offer this and this
28 is your homework, but I'm going to offer some housekeeping items. First of all, July 31 will
29 be our next meeting. That's the last Friday of the month, and we will probably still be doing it
30 via zoom. I did share a map with everyone. And that's part of your homework as is part of
31 the ordinance. I think everyone is taking it from the perspective of our willingness to try new
32 things. And we've put questions out there. The map is related on item "C" on the screen now
33 where they may be, where they're prohibited from releasing community cats. So you need to
34 look at that and if you have questions about the map, let me know. We could change these
35 standards because it's really about where we're releasing community cats.

36
37 The other item is on items "D" and "E" and I want you to focus on that. The question under
38 "E" as part of your homework is what else are available besides multiple releases and at
39 what point do they become a nuisance beyond the initial ear tipping and what other items
40 we could look at as far as a nuisance cat does ultimately get euthanized at the end. And
41 then the other issue, this is the real question and will be part of our discussion next month,
42 was with registration. So rather than registering the caregiver here's a thought, what if we
43 register the cat either with their caregiver or through a nonprofit or to ASCMV or some other
44 organization that would assume responsibility. So it's not necessarily about the individual
45 person, but more so about the individual cat that we create. So I had that thought today. So
46 that is your homework, and if you want. I will send an email on that on Monday to the group
47 with those questions and just a thought process so we can direct the discussion next month.

48 **Athena Huckaby:** I have a clarifying question on what exactly you would like us to do for
49 Section "E". Are you looking for other brainstorming ideas of things besides euthanasia, that
50 could be done with the cats?

1 **David Dollahon:** Yes, as well. Thank you for that question. All right, it is 3:45 I'm going to
2 stop sharing my screen. And is there any other questions for the group? Our next meeting is
3 Friday, July 31 at 2:30 and it will probably most definitely be zoom. We're adjourned folks.

4
5 **Adjourn** – 3:45 p.m.

6
7
8
9

10 _____
Chair

11
12

13 Approved: _____



1
2 The following are summary minutes for the meeting of the **City of Las Cruces - Animal Care**
3 **Task Force** for July 31, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. The meeting took place via ZOOM with attendees
4 logged onto their personal computers or smartphone.

5
6 **Members Present:**

7 David Dollahon, Assistant City Manager for Operations
8 Kasandra Gandara, City Councilor Dist. 1
9 Gino Jimenez, City ACO Supervisor
10 Mary Lou Ward, Dona Ana County ACO Supervisor
11 Clint Thacker, ASCMV Executive Director
12 Susan Krueger, Animal Care Advocate
13 Gina Roberts, Dona Ana County ACO Case Manager
14 Geri Wheelis, Boarding Director for Calista Animal Hospital
15 Athena Huckaby, Colony Manager
16 Rick Hahn, Coalition for Pets and People
17 Jackye Meinecke, Coalition for Pets and People

18
19 **Others Present:**

20 Marcy Scott, Citizen

21
22 **Call to order – 2:36 p.m.**

23
24 **David Dollahon:** I'm going to call this meeting to order so we can get started. I'm going to
25 share my screen with the agenda and then I also have on there the meeting minutes. So we
26 call the meeting to order at 2:36 and I'm going to remind everybody to raise your hand.
27 Susan, I don't know if you can because you're on the phone. Also, I'm going to ask
28 everyone to mute themselves, unless you're talking. Susan, if you can't raise your hand on
29 the phone, I'll try to remember to call on you or just speak up. Don't mute yourself.

30
31 First thing I'm going to do is pull up the meeting minutes from the June meeting. We did
32 detailed minutes this time so I don't know if we everybody got a chance to read through
33 them.

34
35 **Gina Roberts:** I was at the last meeting. You just couldn't see me.

36
37 **David Dollahon:** Okay. We'll amend the minutes to reflect Gina was added. All right. Can I
38 get a motion and a second on the meeting minutes with the corrections to add Regina
39 Roberts?

40
41 **Gina Roberts:** Can I do it?

42
43 **David Dollahon:** Yes, ma'am you can. Gina, was that a motion to approve the minutes?

44
45 **Gina Roberts:** Yes.

46
47 **Jackye Meinecke:** I'll second it.

1 **David Dollahon:** Thank you Jackye. Is there any other discussion or corrections? I'm just
2 gonna do approval of the minutes by acclamation, if that's okay.

3
4 All right. Good deal. So, let's go to the agenda. So, we shared the minutes and then
5 discussion only and a few of you are on the meeting that I shared documents that you had
6 shared with us your homework. For those of you who did it, thank you. And so I'm going to
7 ask people to...it would take me quite a few minutes to pull up those shared documents so
8 I'm going to ask each person in order that shared their homework that I distributed to the
9 group, if they could give a bulleted summary of their comments. And how I'm going to do
10 this in order is who was on the meeting first and who was on the meeting second. So, Marcy
11 that was you. Susan your next, then Athena and then Jackie.

12
13 **Marcy Scott:** Three points, kind of going in order of your homework questions, first of all,
14 was about the map which outlines restricted areas. There was a little discrepancy because
15 the draft ordinance we put within 100 feet of the edge of a designated natural or
16 unchannelized Arroyo and on the map it delineates a boundary of 200 feet. I know you had
17 asked that whoever drew up the map to do 100 feet and 200 feet. But what shows up if I'm
18 reading it right is 200 feet.

19
20 So that was one issue. I strongly feel that 200 feet is a bare minimum distance. As I've
21 noted before cats can easily scamper that distance in a few seconds. And especially around
22 an arroyo there will definitely be wildlife attractions and that's where any cat's going to head
23 that's within that range. Otherwise, I think most of the distances make sense. Although I
24 would like to see more distance possibly around the parks and schools and daycare
25 centers, especially, with possibly some leeway from the mile from the Rio Grande. So I think
26 there's some give and take a little bit. I think that's kind of a happy medium between what
27 would be my ideal and what might be other people's ideal's with respect to the cats. But we
28 have to remember it's a public health issue, a nuisance issue and a wildlife protection issue.

29
30 The second one was about the four strikes in one year for problem cats. I think that we are
31 trying to compromise here too. I think that's more generous than I would prefer but if there is
32 an issue with a cat, other solutions other than euthanasia might be relocating to an
33 enclosure, indoor fostering to adopt if that's feasible or transfer to a barn cat program.

34
35 Then the third issue, real quickly because I'm going to defer to the ACO's and ASCMV's but
36 the idea of having ASCMV oversee all the cat colonies is okay with me. It seems daunting,
37 in terms of staffing and capability but if it's okay with them and it's okay with the ACO's I'm
38 for it. Since the ACO's are complaint driven I did say I did (inaudible) whether they would be
39 constrained in responding to individual cat problems if they have to coordinate with the
40 ASCMV on pickups like that, but I'm certainly amenable to whatever they think is going to
41 work.

42
43 **David Dollahon:** My point and the wording probably wasn't clear, my thinking was as a
44 compromise on the community cat issue was that if they didn't want to register as a
45 community cat caregiver and their cat's associated with that, then at least the cat should be
46 registered with ASCMV so that it's known and the general location is where it is and that
47 there is some accountability to that cat and if there is a caregiver great, and if there isn't we
48 generally know the...I wasn't putting that on ACO's because of the nature of their work. So
49 that was a compromise, just to be clear.

50

1 **Susan Kruger:** Okay. So, what I started out with is the definition of trap neuter return and
2 then another definition of trap neuter release. So, TNR becomes return to their original
3 location or release to another suitable location and that's described in the ordinance.
4

5 So, I believe now we have two TNR's, a return and a release, and I'm concerned more, I
6 guess, about the release asking if those locations would have an established spot, more or
7 less, where a cat would be released. And then would a care giver be assigned? We need to
8 be sure that the cat isn't abandoned, and I also suggested a trial location in a particular
9 neighborhood, because we talked about neighborhood driven solutions. And we need to set
10 up some criteria so that we can monitor what works and what doesn't work, then I also
11 talked about the nuisance community cat. And I think that the definition in the ordinance of
12 nuisance does not quite fit with what we're calling a nuisance cat. This is a nuisance that it's
13 a cat that being reported as problematic, creating a problem of public nuisance, or a cat
14 that's picked up by animal control in response to four complaints over 12 months. So, we
15 have an either or that makes a cat a nuisance. But section 7-18, which is nuisance
16 prohibitions, stipulates that a person owning or having care custody or control over an
17 animal, and of course no person has necessarily care custody or control over a community
18 cat.
19

20 Again, I really feel that it's important when we have a cat that's reported as being
21 problematic or creating a nuisance that we identify the cat, the complainant and how
22 hopeless that situation has become and then assigning the community cat to the Animal
23 Services Center. I think that, yes, we have to do something. I wonder if we can engage the
24 Animal Services Center to agree with that, to some extent. But again, I think we need to set
25 up some measurable goals and criteria so that we can find out what works and what will
26 help the cat and their community. So that's a summary from my comments.
27

28 **David Dollahon:** Thanks Susan and one note I take from that is the biggest one I have a
29 concern with is the definition of nuisance versus a nuisance cat and I'll need to look at that.
30

31 **Athena Huckaby:** So, there was a little bit of confusion about my comments. Because we
32 have the chat feature disabled while we're having our meetings, we are not able to share
33 documents in real time and so last time we met there were people that were new to the
34 meeting that were not aware of you know the documents that had been shared and
35 previous meeting minutes and so I had sent that two pager I wrote like a year ago, just as a
36 historical like we looked at this document and Marcy and I talked about it and we had a
37 meeting, you know, and did not mean that as a comment on anything current happening so
38 I apologize for the miscommunication there. I did not want it...I realized that that could have
39 been misconstrued and I apologize for that.
40

41 **David Dollahon:** No problem.
42

43 **Jackye Meinecke:** Hey there, so I am not having easy access to my notes. But from what
44 we've discussed so far, one of the things that Marcy brought up right away was this
45 distancing. So, the distancing thing, and I was looking at the maps and I'm going, okay,
46 those distances aren't so bad, 100, 200 doesn't matter except when you get right into a
47 subdivision. When you're getting into someone's subdivision it seems like those distancing
48 rules don't apply because of course those are no longer wild areas. Those are basically,
49 we've civilized them and landscaped them and whatever, and they're not wild anymore. So,
50 it seems to me like it's not a problem with the distancing as long as we maybe make it a little
51 flexible to go around those subdivision edges because from the river and from some of the

1 others you're right smack dab into the middle of somebody's subdivision saying, okay, you
2 can't do this kind of thing or have this kind of thing. And that doesn't seem appropriate to an
3 area that we've developed. It's not wild it's developed territory now. So that was the first
4 one, I answered. I don't have any problem with the four strikes route, well of course I do, but
5 basically as a compromise I don't. Again with a however on it, which is, is it the same
6 complainant every single time over a year? Because if it's the same person complaining
7 over and over and over perhaps that person has an issue rather than the cat as an actual
8 nuisance.

9
10 I would like to say if it's three or four people having a problem with the same cat in the same
11 neighborhood now that is a nuisance. But if it's just one person this may be somebody who
12 just really dislikes having cats around. In that case, my approach is let's get them a
13 scarecrow. Let's give them some scent things. Let's figure out a way to keep the cats out of
14 their yard, not to mention every other wild creature, which is fine, instead of labeling the cat
15 as the problem. So that was the other thing I put in. I will still not ever be happy about any
16 kind of really restrictive registration because I really believe that if we support the
17 community, we will be able to get a lot of this done. The idea of having the ASCMV get a cat
18 that's considered not a pet, basically a TNR'd cat, them chipping, them tracking the chip,
19 they don't have to be responsible in any particular way. They'll just be the registry agency
20 that that tracks these animals. I'm fine with that. But to force people to sign up, fill out forms
21 report constantly and be responsible is asking too much from people who are basically good
22 hearted and generous and are willing to help us if we're not making it a difficult task. I think
23 that was most of what's in my notes. I didn't have quick access to them. So, I'm just gonna
24 go with that if there's somebody that has questions from something they saw in my notes I
25 can address that.

26
27 **Marcy Scott:** The idea of wild versus, I mean we're not expecting that in the city limits
28 there's going to be much wilderness period, but there is habitat and it varies a lot over
29 different areas. Obviously some of the neighborhoods that have been developed the longest
30 have the largest trees and more vegetation in the yards and those are places that birds are
31 going to find attractive. Newer subdivisions without plantings and that kind of thing is
32 another story altogether. So there's a big difference. And it's a much blurrier line than just
33 developed versus undeveloped. We're not talking about wilderness, but there is quite a bit
34 of habitat. Like in the Alameda depot district. It's an old district with lots of trees. So that
35 would be a place that yes, birds are going to find attractive. So, there's more leeway I think
36 in the terms that Jackie was talking about like the boundaries around the Rio Grande maybe
37 make that more like a half a mile boundary, but make some of the other ones like I was
38 mentioning earlier around parks a little bit bigger or some of these neighborhoods with
39 developed vegetation and landscaping.

40
41 The second point was about the complaints and I hear Jackye's point, there are sometimes
42 a cat can be a problem to a lot of people but there are situations where one cat can be a
43 problem to one person over and over and over again. I don't think it's fair to demonize just
44 blanket demonize the complainer because they may not be able to handle having a cat in
45 their yard for whatever health reason. They may not want a cat in their yard because they
46 don't want their gardening being dug up. There are a lot of reasons that one particular cat
47 could be a nuisance and exclusion devices might not be something that those people want.
48 So we have to be careful I think on casting aspersions on somebody that's going to
49 complain about an animal.

50

1 **David Dollahon:** Well, I think this ordinance is going to be all about trying to find a
2 compromise that most can live with and go from there. I honestly think we're close for the
3 most part to continue this discussion.

4
5 **Jackye Meinecke:** So, in response what Marcy said about the developed versus
6 undeveloped I still heard compromise there. I heard her pulling back to within a half a mile,
7 which is probably still more than 100 or 200 feet from the Rio Grande. So I'm hearing a bit of
8 compromise there and I love to hear that. But I'm still concerned about this labeling, you
9 know, this idea that between developed and undeveloped, wild and not wild. I understand
10 what she's saying about habitat. I've worked with actually Audubon to try and create some
11 habitat pathways through Las Cruces, that never got off the ground, but we worked on it.
12 And I understand about that, but then I also read Athena's (inaudible) of how many of the
13 birds we have in this community are not actually even native to this community and the list is
14 fairly long. So I hope there's a compromise in there somewhere just on the developed
15 versus the undeveloped areas.

16
17 The other one was the one cat one person don't demonize the person. I understand what
18 she's saying but I would also say, let's not demonize the cat. Why would you not want to try
19 some sort of exclusion in your garden. What would be the problem with saying we're going
20 to do a sprinkler that hits them every time? It seems like if you really didn't want it, you'd
21 want to use your best methods to keep them out, other than trap and euthanize which is not
22 always successful.

23
24 **Rick Hahn:** The essence of it, you know, there's not a single entity that's willing or able to
25 do all the work and to pay all the financial support to do either trap neuter return or a trap
26 and kill methodology. So, in order for this to happen, we need to have as much participation
27 as possible. And that's only going to happen if the barriers to that participation are as low as
28 possible. So if we're asking people for fees we're going to get fewer volunteers. If we're
29 asking people to run around and fill paperwork we're just going to get fewer volunteers. So,
30 the lower we make the friction the more people we'll get involved in the process. And that's
31 kind of it in a nutshell.

32
33 And then the other thing was the three strikes rule. I'm kind of thinking that something like
34 that should be part of a policy that's associated with the ordinance, but not baked into the
35 ordinance, because that would make it a little bit more flexible. It would still require city
36 council to sign off on it but it could be updated more frequently than an ordinance.

37
38 **David Dollahon:** I think we have a plan, folks. I'm going to hit on some points and one
39 point, I'm going to call on the two ACO's. Here's your questions. Gino and Mary Lou and I'm
40 going to go to Mary Lou first. If you're comfortable with the community cat registration
41 through a registered caregiver, whether they be an individual or through a nonprofit or the
42 cat registered at ASCMV. What are your thoughts on that? And then the second question is
43 reducing the barriers issue by allowing a permit for a caregiver at the application stage
44 provided that they're given the permit with the general understanding that they have a
45 certain amount of time to complete the work. Getting to Rick's point about the cost and the
46 ability to do it. Do you understand what I'm saying?

47 **Mary Lou Ward:** Can you hear me?

48
49 **David Dollahon:** No.

50
51 **Mary Lou Ward:** I'll call in.

1 **David Dollahon:** Ok. Go ahead, Gino. Your turn.

2
3 **Gino Jimenez:** I don't believe that every registration has to come through us. So as long as
4 we have access to some sort of database that shows where this animal or who this cat is
5 registered to that's fine with me. The reason for the registration, from our standpoint is so
6 that if we do trap one or if a citizen does trap a cat that has ear tipped, microchips,
7 everything, then we know who to call so that cat can be released back to them in that area
8 So where the registration is or who maintains that registration, as long as we have access to
9 it. I think it is fine with me.

10
11 The second point is reducing the barriers, I think we already did that in this final push. I did it
12 as a matter of fact, in this final push earlier or late last summer. There was no fees collected
13 and we had a great turnout. Unfortunately, a lot of these people weren't able to complete the
14 work because they didn't have the means to do everything, spay, neuter, microchip,
15 vaccinate and ear tip. So, a lot of them fell through the cracks. I don't believe that since
16 we've been proposing this that we've asked for a fee.

17
18 So, that would be something that we can still talk about but I think the most important thing
19 at this point is a registration and not the fee. So I agree. I did this with the last few that came
20 to me. I gave them the guidelines of what needed to be done and then when those
21 requirements were met, then they came back to me and produced all that documentation
22 with the idea of now me going out and inspecting and making sure all the documents were
23 in order. Then I would issue the permit so they're still being able to do their work, these
24 individuals were still able to do their work, knowing that at the end when they were complete
25 they would get their permit.

26
27 **David Dollahon:** Okay. I think the issue is the concern about not having the permit until the
28 end as they're working through it. So I think one of the compromises is like a conditional
29 permit or an application and then the formal permit at the end. I think we can address that.

30
31 **Gino Jimenez:** Yes. And that would be a policy issue. That's exactly like I was trying to do it
32 with these last few they came in. Again I'd give them the guidelines, they knew the
33 restrictions, they knew the requirements, they were still continuing to do their work. When
34 that work was complete, then they would come back to me for the permit. We can reverse it
35 and give them a permit. As long as all the requirements are met within a certain amount of
36 time, then they would get the actual official permit if you will.

37
38 **David Dollahon:** Alright.

39
40 **MaryLou Ward:** So I think, I kind of missed a little bit of Gino's, now going back into the
41 applications, I think if you're going to give them permits first, as long as the permits are
42 where if they're not in compliance upon a certain amount of time, then they're at a point
43 where you can retract those permits, you know, if you're going to give them permits at the
44 beginning, then a lot of people are not going to, I think, comply. So as long as you have that
45 ability to take those permits back so they can still, you know, know that they can be held
46 accountable if they're not in compliance and still have a way of taking those back. That's
47 what I think on that one.

48
49 And then what was the other, the other question.

50

1 **David Dollahon:** About registering. If the caregiver is not registered either through
2 themselves or through the ACO or ASCMV or through a nonprofit then at least registering
3 the cat.

4
5 **MaryLou Ward:** I mean, you've got to register in one way or another. I think that that would
6 help document it and monitor it. I think it needs to be done.

7
8 **David Dollahon:** That's everybody's comments for now. Does anybody else have questions
9 because I actually think that I, based on these comments, not in this meeting, I can go
10 through the draft ordinance and make some changes and get them out to everybody next
11 week as progress. I did want to bring up one item related to the ordinance and Gino wanted
12 to change the barking dog issue.

13
14 **Clint Thacker:** Before Gino gets into that can I say something? Again, I just would like it on
15 record that registering cat caregivers are caretakers is not the way to do a effective trap
16 neuter return program. I still believe that we should not be registering them. I feel like we've
17 given a lot of...there's a lot of give and take here. You know, releasing cats not near places
18 and the four strike rule. There's been a lot of give and take, but I still don't think that we
19 should register caregivers, thank you.

20
21 **David Dollahon:** Here's the question, as a compromise, if the caregiver's not willing to
22 register, fine, but at least we have the cat registered through ASCMV. Do you know what I'm
23 saying?

24
25 **Clint Thacker:** No, I don't. Explain that more to me.

26
27 **David Dollahon:** Okay, so at least the cat has a microchip and ear tip, is sterilized and it's
28 attributed to ASCMV and it's a general known location. Now, if there's in the notes field a
29 known caregiver, then the caregiver information is in there. But if that person does not want
30 to do that formally as a caregiver to register, then at least the cat is known to ASCMV and
31 that we know it's been documented properly and that it's been released by ASCMV and that
32 if there are issues and we can track any complaints say to the three or four strike rule then it
33 gets documented that way. That's what my argument for that is.

34
35 **Clint Thacker:** Yeah, I don't have any problem at all with the registering the cat. That's fine,
36 but to register the cat...and that will give you an area of where the cat's from so if there's an
37 issue, then we can have somebody go out and blanket the area and give educational
38 material and so on. I mean that could be as easy as somebody that we hire or even the
39 Animal Control Officer give educational material out. But to have somebody register
40 because they like to take care of cats and this is part of their cats that is a moot point
41 because we're taking that cat back to that area.

42
43 I feel like the Animal Control Officers just want to have that information so if the cat attacks
44 quote, unquote, or if it bites, then they can go and charge person. And what are they gonna
45 do? What's that person going to do if that happens?

46
47 **David Dollahon:** But that's the whole point. We're trying to find a compromise for
48 accountability on the cat's part, not necessarily the caregiver's part. So, this is just a
49 compromise, if we're not registering the caregivers, which is still an option, which they could
50 still do but if they don't want to do that that's fine. Then we register the cat and it's an

1 assigned area. That's what we're just trying to get to, it's an either or it's not both. Well, the
2 cat would be registered period.

3
4 **Clint Thacker:** Alright, so if it's either or that's great. That was never explained to me or I
5 didn't get that from the comments.

6
7 **Athena Huckaby:** I also just wanted to speak up to point out that I think that one of the
8 biggest issues in being in compliance is cost. Unfortunately, even at the cheapest place
9 which is the animal service shelter is 50 bucks a cat. So if you've got 10 cats that's 500
10 bucks real quick and most people can't afford that so I think that, you know, there has to be
11 something...so somebody registers, they get a temporary registration and they need to
12 bring all cat's into compliance and they're neutered and eartipped. But really what that is, is
13 a time period to be able to raise \$500 to neuter all of these cats. And I may or may not do
14 that in 90 days or six months or...so I think that if we're going to require people and only
15 give them a certain amount of time there has to be a mechanism for them to get funding
16 somehow.

17
18 **David Dollahon:** I was going to bring up something based on your comments specific to
19 that point is that the city, I was going to put in the ordinance, that the city could fund an
20 affordable spay neuter program for community cats in the ordinance.

21
22 **Athena Huckaby:** Amazing. Bless, love it. My second point was just also that, um, I think
23 the other thing that stands in the way, sometimes you'll have a cat that's very difficult to trap
24 and you may drop trap or other, what do I want to say, like TNR 2.0 help. And I think that's
25 one of the ways that connecting people to resources can be helpful. An organization say like
26 Broken Promises that has that type of how to do it. You know, just important also that we
27 help people to understand that a simple trap might not work for all cats, especially cats that
28 have been trapped before or who are wild (inaudible).

29
30 **Kasandra Gandara:** I'm sorry, can I ask a question real quick about that? I'm sorry. So the
31 individuals are going to register the cats. Am I hearing this correctly?

32
33 **David Dollahon:** Yes, you are.

34
35 **Kasandra Gandara:** Okay. And, um, is there specifics in the ordinance about...because I
36 think, in order for this to work, this individual would have let's say five cats, for example, do
37 all that's necessary, register each cat, get them spayed, you know, the whole thing. But
38 what if they keep getting, collecting cats? That defeats the purpose of what we're trying to
39 do.

40
41 **David Dollahon:** Right, so that is the biggest problem with the whole thing. Because in
42 some people, you have a gamut or mix of people who want to do it. Some people just want
43 to take care of the few that they have under their control and they want to get themselves
44 out of the business. And when those animals either get adopted or die off then they don't
45 want to take on anymore.

46
47 The others are, we have to be careful of the hoarding situation or taking on more than they
48 can be responsible for. I don't have an answer to that, other than the fact that if it's a
49 hoarding situation you get into a neglect situation but at the same time, they're not going to
50 do the responsible thing and they're probably not going to ear tip or have the cat spayed or
51 neutered. And then there's just natural attrition. Cats get hit by cars, they get taken by

1 wildlife or whatever. So, you do lose cats that do die off. But at least with that they don't
2 procreate through the eartipping, spay and neuter. That's our primary objective.

3
4 **Clint Thacker:** And the ordinance also will go towards those things too. Like if a person
5 gets 10 cats and they spay or neuter all of them then...and if somebody complains about the
6 feces smell well that's a nuisance, that's something different. If they complain about loud
7 noises, then you know, it's a noise ordinance. So, these things are in the ordinance as long
8 as they're properly identified.

9
10 **Kasandra Gandara:** I guess I'm worried about these folks that just continue to take in cats.
11 And I don't mean in a hoarding way but...maybe they do all the things right. I mean, at the
12 end of the day isn't this supposed to be where you work yourself out of a job so to speak. I
13 know of a lot of these colonies that that's not the case. People just keep brooding cats, if
14 you will. Is there policies or other municipalities that have provisions in there for that not to
15 happen?

16
17 **David Dollahon:** I think we do from a nuisance standpoint but it's not a finite number
18 because each situation is unique because somebody on a half an acre versus somebody in
19 a 3000 square foot lot townhouse can't do other things. But there are people out there who
20 are going to try and take as good care as many cats possible but the objective is to not have
21 them procreating.

22
23 **Geri Wheelis:** But yeah, so isn't that the point of the TNR is to get as many spayed and
24 neutered as possible and therefore, people are taking more cats? In theory, they're getting
25 more cat sterilized.

26
27 **David Dollahon:** Yes. But if there's no perfect ideal answer. But yes, that is the objective,
28 so they're at least not procreating.

29
30 **Geri Wheelis:** So acquiring more cats is not necessarily a bad thing.

31
32 **David Dollahon:** Provided they can care for them, right.

33
34 **Mary Lou Ward:** Well, I guess it would depend on what neighborhood you live in too. I
35 mean, I'm sorry, I would not want to live in that neighborhood.

36
37 **Athena Huckaby:** I just wanted to speak to my experience as a caregiver. Just to note a
38 couple of things that I've experienced. So when I was living in New York, I got into the trap
39 neuter return business there because there was a mother cat that had babies under one of
40 our sheds and she was unowned. I had to do something about it. So, I trapped the kittens
41 and neutered them and you know they were wild. They were not able to be socialized. I
42 fixed mom, you know, got the whole situation under control. But then what happened is that
43 I got a reputation for caring for cats and people would just dump cats in my yard. I think that
44 one of the things that happens to TNR practitioners, is that because people, other people
45 are irresponsible, you know, that if you're acquiring more cats it's because "A" there's a
46 dumping situation and "B" there a hoarding situation get close to you and you're getting
47 those cats coming over to your place out of attrition kind of from the other bad situation. And
48 then I mean something that just happened to me, I live in the city limits of Las Cruces, I
49 have no...I used to do trap neuter return in Mesilla, I have not been doing it here in Las
50 Cruces because I haven't seen feral cats close to me, I have one cat now that is feral living
51 in a caddy-o and I have several house ferals that live with me. I now have a gray and white

1 adolescent kitten jumping over my fence and killed one of my birds and is also killing ground
2 squirrels that I have living in my yard. So, I'm gonna have to catch this kitten and fix it, it
3 doesn't belong to me. It doesn't have a collar, I'm going to, of course, you know, see if it has
4 a microchip right but I think basically like it's not that I'm going out there and like acquiring
5 cats, you know, it's that we have a cat problem in Las Cruces and they show up and
6 responsible people want to do something about it.
7

8 I mean, that's how I see it, but I do understand there's lines and you know there's what we
9 call the cat ladies who are just feeding the cats and contributing to the problem without
10 doing TNR. There's a lot of things going on so I totally get it but I don't think it's always
11 irresponsible, as others have pointed out to acquire more cats. Especially just because we
12 have stray cats running around and they show up so you just fix them.
13

14 **David Dollahon:** Right. But I think the overall point behind the ordinance is to get that cat
15 neutered, spayed, ear tipped and vaccinated and then that attrition will take care of itself.
16 Because our problem is the procreation of more and more cats, rather than the hoarding
17 and lack of care.
18

19 **Athena Huckaby:** We can only care for the cats, though, that are in our area, and as we
20 (inaudible) you know with all of the different presentations to really make an impact we
21 would have to be euthanizing and/or spay and neutering over 70% of the cat population
22 which is not going to happen.
23

24 **David Dollahon:** But we still have to try.
25

26 **Athena Huckaby:** Absolutely and that's what I'm about.
27

28 **Gino Jimenez:** The permit, if we allow the permit to be issued before compliance is met,
29 then the only way for me to revoke that permit is to go to municipal court in front of a judge
30 and then have him or her revoke that permit. So, if I issue it before the processes it's going
31 to be harder for us Municipal Court. The only way to circumvent that is to put that in the
32 ordinance that it is conditional upon completion of all the requirements.
33

34 The second thing is something that Clint said about the registration. I have never said that I
35 want that registration so that I have somebody to cite or to go after. To me, the main
36 purpose of that registration is so that if a cat does bite I can reach out to that individual and
37 say, hey, help me out because a cat that is described in your colony has bitten somebody,
38 help me out. Because my first concern is the health and welfare of that individual. Secondly,
39 of the cat. So that's why I was looking forward for that registration.
40

41 **David Dollahon:** I agree. Okay the barking dogs.
42

43 **Gino Jimenez:** So, one of our biggest complaints one of our biggest issues is barking and a
44 lot of times the barking issues go unresolved because this whole ordinance, our whole
45 ordinance is a misdemeanor, which means that the officer has to witness the violation or
46 have a witness that's willing to testify in court to a violation. And then we use their testimony
47 in order to prosecute the animal owner. One of the hardest biggest obstacles we have is the
48 barking section, however Albuquerque and Denver have something that I would like to
49 utilize. In their barking ordinance the nuisance part, the definition of barking would remain
50 the same. However, in policy and in practice if a citizen complains about their neighbor's
51 dog barking and it's fielded by our office, we would send that dog owner, a certified letter

1 letting them know that a complaint was made about their barking and then for them to
2 correct it in the best way that they know how. If a second complaint is made about that
3 same dog then we as animal control would mediate between the dog owner and the
4 complainant as to some sort of resolution. Whether it's putting a bark collar on, bringing
5 them in at certain hours because the complainant may be a night worker and the only time
6 he can get sleep is during the day. However, either way Animal Control would mediate
7 some sort of resolution in that second meeting. If a third complaint is made, then it would be
8 up to the complainant to take that dog owner to civil court and have that testimony heard in
9 front of a Magistrate Judge, and then he or she would make that decision as to whatever
10 remedies they deem fit for that dog. That is the proposal I'm making for the barking
11 ordinance.

12

13 **David Dollahon:** I'm okay with that. I just need to give wording and I'll share it with the
14 group.

15

16 **Clint Thacker:** Is there a reason why we're focusing solely on dogs and not animals or dogs
17 and cats because all those can make a lot of noises.

18

19 **Gino Jimenez:** Absolutely. Because the ordinance is labeled as barking. It's under the
20 nuisance part but it says barking. That's why to addressed directly at dogs.

21

22 **Mary Lou Ward:** I have a comment on that on the barking dog. I wouldn't make them go
23 into civil court for that. I would put something in there allowing you to still to have some type
24 of a way for you to hold them accountable and don't put yourself short. I like all the steps
25 that you have. I think that's great but still by not having that last step to hold them
26 accountable I think is going to hurt you guys in the long run.

27

28 **Gino Jimenez:** I believe that they would still be held accountable by the competent of the
29 judge. So that if there is, let's say, a fourth or fifth violation, then that's going to be
30 addressed in that magistrate court.

31

32 **Mary Lou Ward:** But you're not allowing yourself to issue any kind of enforcement to that
33 individual. And so it's going to cause a lot of problems I think.

34

35 **Gino Jimenez:** I'll reach out again to Albuquerque and to Denver, because that is
36 something that the officers up there never said that they had an issue with but I never
37 asked, either. So I'll do that.

38

39 **David Dollahon:** No other discussion. We're at the end of agenda so I'm going to call it at
40 3:34 pm that we're adjourned.

41

42 **Adjourn – 3:34 p.m.**

43

44

45

46

47 _____
Chair

48

49

50 Approved: _____