

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

350 E. Dahlia Ave., Palmer, Alaska 99645

CHAIRPERSON

Daniel Bowen

VICE CHAIR

Terry Dennison



BOARD MEMBERS

Sally Pollen
Destiny O'Daniel
Amanda Taylor

ALTERNATE

Rebecca Bond-Knuth

AGENDA

ANIMAL CARE AND REGULATION BOARD BOROUGH ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS 350 EAST DAHLIA AVENUE, PALMER

APPEAL HEARING

10 A.M.

JULY 18, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

IV. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. AC&R Case No. 25-05, Appeal the Level 4 Classification of Jewels, Matthew Ostrander, Appellant

1. Opening Presentation by Borough Staff (*15 minutes collectively – the Board and the owner/appellant shall have the opportunity to question all Borough staff that make a presentation or otherwise offer testimony to the board*)

a. Raegan Visker, Legal Intern and
Erin Ashmore, Assistant Borough Attorney

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

a. Matthew Ostrander, Appellant

3. Victim Statements (*15 minutes – the Board, the Borough, and the*

owner/appellant shall have the opportunity to question the victim or victim owner)

- a. William Recknagle
4. Witness Statements (5 minutes - *the Board, Borough staff, and the owner/appellant shall have the opportunity to question witnesses*)
 - a. Angela Costa, Animal Care and Regulation Officer
 - b. Any Witness Designated on Mr. Ostrander's Witness List
 - c. Any Witness Mentioned in the Record on Appeal
 - d. Any Witness Needed to Impeach the Testimony of Another Witness
 - e. Any Witness Necessary to Lay the Foundation for the Admission into Evidence of any Exhibit or Document contained in Mr. Ostrander's Exhibits
 - f. Any Rebuttal Witness as May Become Apparent at the Time of the Hearing
5. Closing Remarks by Animal Owner (*10 minutes collectively*)
 - a. Matthew Ostrander, Appellant
6. Closing Remarks by Borough (*10 minutes*)
 - a. Raegan Visker and
Erin Ashmore, Assistant Borough Attorney

V. ADJUDICATORY SESSION

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

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

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. April 25, 2025

II. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (*3 minutes each*)

III. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

- A. Report from Animal Care and Regulation Staff
- B. Discussion regarding possible request for removal of member confirmed on February 18, 2025, pursuant to MSB 4.05.030(2), "*A confirmed appointee fails to qualify and assume the duties of the office within 30 calendar days of confirmation*" and MSB 4.05.030 (6) *the board member is absent from more than three consecutive regular board meetings, and the respective board requests the removal, in writing, to the Assembly.*"

IV. BOARD COMMENTS

V. ADJOURNMENT

I. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Animal Care and Regulation Board was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Acting Chairperson Daniel Bowen.

II. ROLL CALL

Board members present and establishing a quorum were:

Sally Pollen
Terry Dennison
Daniel Bowen

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

The agenda was approved as presented without objection.

III. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

- A. AC&R Case No. 25-01, Appeal the Level 1 Classification of Oakley, Arizona Dodd and Vanessa Pool, Appellants
1. Opening Presentation by Borough Staff (*15 minutes collectively – the Board and the owner/appellant shall have the opportunity to question all Borough staff that make a presentation or otherwise offer testimony to the board*)
 - a. Erin Ashmore, Assistant Borough Attorney

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

Erin Ashmore, Assistant Borough Attorney, provided an opening statement.

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

Rachel Brown, Animal Care and Regulation Officer, provided her opening statement.

Vanessa Pool, appellant, asked questions of Chief Hardwig.

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

Vanessa Pool provided an opening statement.

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

Roger Register provided telephonic testimony.

Vanessa Pool asked questions of Roger Register.

Vanessa Pool petitioned the Board to submit late-filed written arguments and other information for the Board to consider.

Erin Ashmore objected.

Acting Chairperson Bowen queried if the Board would like to see what Vanessa wants to submit.

The Board denied the request.

4. Witness Statements (*5 minutes - the Board, Borough staff, and the owner/appellant shall have the opportunity to question witnesses*)
 - a. [Clerk's Note: Neither party filed witness lists]

There were no witnesses to testify.

5. Closing Remarks by Animal Owner (*10 minutes collectively*)
 - a. Arizona Dodd and/or Vanessa Pool

Vanessa Pool provided closing remarks.

6. Closing Remarks by Borough (*10 minutes*)
 - a. Erin Ashmore, Assistant Borough Attorney

Erin Ashmore provided closing remarks.

IV. ADJUDICATORY SESSION

MOTION: Terry Dennison moved to enter into adjudicatory session.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection and the Board entered into adjudicatory session at 10:39 a.m.

MOTION: Terry Dennison moved to exit adjudicatory session.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection and the Board entered into adjudicatory session at 10:58 a.m.

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

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

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

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

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

The Board opted to continue with the regular meeting.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

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

I. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A. Elect Chairperson

NOMINATION: Terry Dennison nominated Daniel Bowen as Chairperson.

Daniel Bowen accepted the nomination and was elected without objection.

B. Elect Vice Chairperson

NOMINATION: Daniel Bowen nominated Terry Dennison as Vice Chairperson.

Terry Dennison accepted the nomination and was elected without objection.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. August 13, 2024

B. September 17, 2024

C. February 19, 2025

D. April 2, 2025

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

The minutes were approved as presented.

III. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3 minutes each)

There was no one present who wished to testify.

IV. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. Report from Animal Care and Regulation Staff

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

V. BOARD COMMENTS

Salley Pollen noted that she has learned a lot about the appeal process for the Board. Spoke to her appreciation of being on the Board.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
ANIMAL CARE AND REGULATION BOARD

DANIEL BOWEN, Chairperson

ATTEST:

BRENDA J. HENRY, MMC
Assistant Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: