

Inspection for Rabies Quarantine Facilities and Impoundment/Shelter Facilities

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Date 10/22/12 Name of Manager Abigail Smith Registration No. 07-0009
 Name of Establishment Austin Animal Center Veterinarian Linda Czisny Inspector Beverlee E. Nix DVM
 Location of Establishment 7201 LeVander Loop Mailing Address P.O. Box 1088
 City Austin State TX Zip Code Physical - 78702
 Phone Main # 512-978-0500 County Trawis Mailing - 78767

Note to Inspector: Put Yes, No, or N/A (Not Applicable) in the columns to the right of the question.

A. General - [Section 169.26(a)]			
<i>Structural Strength</i>		<i>Records (cont.)</i>	
1. Is the facility structurally sound and maintained in good repair in order to protect the animals from injury, contain them, and prevent transmission of diseases?	Y	13. Do records document animal description, impoundment and disposition dates, and method of disposition?	Y
<i>Water and Electric Power</i>		<i>Heating</i>	
2. Does the facility have reliable and adequate electricity to comply with other requirements?	Y	14. Are animals protected from cold and inclement weather and direct effects of wind, rain, and snow?	Y
3. Does the facility have potable water?	Y	15. Is auxiliary heat or bedding provided if temperature is below 50°F?	Y
<i>Storage</i>		<i>Cooling and Ventilation</i>	
4. Are food and bedding stored to protect them against infestation or contamination by vermin?	Y	16. Are animals protected from any form of overheating and from direct rays of sun?	Y
5. Is a refrigerator available for perishable foods?	Y	17. Is there adequate ventilation to minimize drafts, odors, and moisture condensation, plus fresh air provided?	Y (2)
<i>Waste Disposal</i>		18. Is extra ventilation, such as fans or air conditioning, provided in indoor facilities if temperature is 85°F or above?	Y (2)
6. Are there provisions for the removal and disposal of animal and food wastes, bedding, dead animals, and debris?	Y (1)	<i>Lighting</i>	
7. Are disposal facilities operated in a manner that minimizes vermin infestations, odors, and disease hazards?	Y (1)	19. Is lighting adequate to permit routine inspection and cleaning?	Y
8. Is there a suitable method for rapidly and safely removing water and other liquid wastes?	Y (1)	20. Are primary enclosures situated to protect the animals from excessive illumination (man-made or natural)?	Y
<i>Washrooms and Sinks</i>		<i>Construction</i>	
9. Are there facilities (washrooms, basins, or sinks) for employees to wash their hands?	Y	21. Is the facility constructed to protect the animals and not create a health risk or public nuisance?	Y
<i>Management</i>		22. Are building surfaces constructed of nonabsorbent materials that can be readily sanitized?	Y
10. For facilities located in a county with a population of 75,000 or over (only), in accordance with Chapter 823.003:		23. Is the floor made of durable, nonabsorbent material?	Y
a. Are animals separated by species and by sex?	Y	<i>Primary Enclosures</i>	
b. Are animals of relatively the same size sharing cages/pens?	Y	24. Are primary enclosures maintained in good repair, impervious to moisture, and readily sanitized?	Y
c. Are sick or injured animals segregated from healthy animals?	Y	25. Do primary enclosures enable the animal to remain dry and clean and protect the animal's feet and legs from injury?	Y
11. For facilities located in a county with a population of 75,000 or over (only), in accordance with Chapter 823.005:		26. Do the cages and kennels provide enough space for each animal to be in comfortable positions?	Y (3)
Has the governing body of the city or county in which the shelter is located established an advisory committee to assist in compliance with Chapter 823?	Y	B. Feeding - [Section 169.26(b)]	
<i>meets monthly; one vacancy in animal welfare slot</i>		27. Are dogs and cats fed at least once a day, except as directed by a veterinarian? Are other animals fed as described on packaging of a commercial, species-specific food or as directed by a veterinarian (see #32 for ferret requirements)?	Y
<i>Records</i>		28. Is food wholesome, palatable, free from contamination, of sufficient nutritive value, and accessible to animals?	Y
12. Does the facility keep records on each animal?	Y		
<i>computerized Chameleon</i>			

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Feeding (cont.)		Rabies Quarantine Facilities (Completed by DSHS Only) - [Section 169.27(a)]	
29. Are food pans kept clean and sanitary, and if disposable food pans are used, are they discarded after each feeding?	Y	37. Is there documentation of twice-daily observations of quarantined animals?	Y
C. Watering - [Section 169.26(c)]		Rabies Quarantine Facilities (Completed by DSHS Only) - [Section 169.28(a)]	
30. Do animals have convenient access to fresh water and is it offered at least twice daily for at least an hour?	Y	38. Does the facility have a written Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)?	Y
31. Are the water bowls clean and sanitary?	Y	39. Is the SOP specific for the facility?	Y
32. Do domestic ferrets have 24-hour access to water in a drinking bottle and to food?	Y	40. Is the SOP posted or otherwise readily available to all employees?	Y
D. Sanitation - [Section 169.26(d)]		41. Is the SOP designed to ensure effective and safe quarantine procedures?	Y
33. Are excreta removed from primary enclosures often enough to prevent contamination of the animals (at least once a day)?	Y/N	42. Do enclosures have solid walls to prevent physical contact between animals?	Y
34. Are primary enclosures maintained in a sanitary condition?	Y/N	43. Do enclosures have tops to prevent escape?	Y
35. Are the building and premises kept clean?	Y/N	44. Do quarantine runs, cages, or rooms have "Rabies Quarantine" signs posted? <u>locked wards; cage cards</u>	Y
E. Pest Control - [Section 169.26(e)]		For Facilities Subject to Chapter 829 (Located in Non-exempt County) - (Sections 829.002 and 829.007)	
36. Is there a regular program in place for control of insects, ectoparasites, and other pests and is the facility free from visible signs of vermin? <u>contract by City</u>	Y	45. This standard is for purposes of meeting requirements set forth in Chapter 829 only. Are all employees whose primary job is to enforce animal control laws in compliance with training requirements (Sec. 829.002)? If so, this inspection form serves as a certificate of compliance per Section 829.007.	N/A Y??

This facility has approximately 218 cat cages and 257 dog cages/pens. (6)

When the facility was inspected today, it was housing approximately 314 cats and 276 dogs. (6)

Inspector Comments: DSHS conducted an unannounced quarantine facility inspection. In addition DSHS inquired about housing capacity and population figures.
 Check here if additional inspector comments are attached

Facility Rating: Satisfactory Unsatisfactory _____ Probation _____

If applicable, timeline for probationary period _____

As the inspector, I certify that I have personally inspected this facility and that it conforms to the statements above.

Inspector Beverlee E. Huff DM

Date 10/22/12

Manager J. Chase

Date 10/22/12

Regional Veterinarian Beverlee E. Huff DM

Date 10/22/12



**Texas Department of State Health Services
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Z-3 Supplemental for Additional Comments**

Inspector comments continued: DSHS toured facility - ⁽¹⁾ dogs are being housed in cat cages, ⁽²⁾ cats are being housed in temporary cages in the cat room, ⁽³⁾ cats are being housed in exotic animal room, ⁽⁴⁾ general population dogs are being housed in dog quarantine building and pens. Shelter personnel are grappling with more animals than facility was designed to hold. Large dogs are being doubled up in pens. Some dog fights have occurred as a result. Manpower to clean + feed the animals is taxed. Dog ~~quarantine~~ quarantine pens are cleaned on an afternoon cycle. Pens were sorted during my AM visit.

Inspection notations

- ① Pens + cages are built to facilitate cleaning, but there are so many animals that cleaning personnel have a challenge keeping pens clean. DSHS suggests identifying more ways to expedite cleaning - fewer animals on site, increased personnel, or other.
- ② Dog quarantine building (and general shelter population buildings) guillotine doors (plexiglass) have worn. Internal air conditioning escapes. Dog areas are very humid and warmer than the city surely intended. The City will want to revisit temperature control in this building.
- ③ ~~In general dog population buildings (and the cat building)~~ Some small dogs are being kept in cat cages. These cages are too small for some of these dogs. They need bigger cages or access to a dog run as soon as resources allow. The city should consider devoting resources to increase dog caging. Similarly, cats are held long term in traditional size cat cages. The city should consider expanding the size of caging for long term cat holding.

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Inspector comments continued:

④ relates to sanitation - cleaning staff were busy. I'm not convinced cleaning is timely due to the volume of animals on-site. There may not be enough personnel for the work. Please explore options to facilitate cleaning - #s of animals, #s of personnel, correct caging for species, etc.

⑤ DSITB requested ACO CE proof from Austin Animal Control in September 2012. To date records of ACO CE are still being identified. Prior personnel did not seem to track personnel CE accurately, so current personnel have had difficulty piecing CE hours together. Some ACOs clearly met Chap 829, but for 2 are uncertain. The city has requested records from TACA + Texas Utilities in order to definitively prove their officers are current on CE hours. At this time DSITB cannot accurately determine if ACO CE hours have been achieved.

DSITB has also requested data from Austin Animal Center to assess #s of animals in relation to #s of permanent pens. Our concern is about overcapacity.

⑥ Today's animal #s include animals kept in temporary cages, offices, and feline (for dogs) cages and exotic (for cat cages).

Austin Animal Center personnel (leadership and line staff) are working hard to meet city live outcome goals with the resources available.

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