



Animal Control Commission Meeting Agenda

August 3, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Mona Lisa Drexler Assembly Chambers
Juanita Helms Administration Center
907 Terminal Street, Fairbanks, AK

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

C. MESSAGES

C.1. Citizens' Comments - limited to three (3) minutes

C.1.a. Agenda items not scheduled for public hearing

C.1.b. Items other than those appearing on the agenda

C.2. Disclosure and Statement of Conflict of Interest

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the consent agenda passes all routine items indicated by asterisk (*) on the agenda. Consent agenda items are not considered separately unless any commission member or citizen so requests. In the event of such a request, the item is returned to the general agenda.

E. MINUTES

E.1. *Animal Control Commission hearing minutes from April 20, 2026.

E.2. *Animal Control Commission meeting minutes from May 4, 2026.

E.3. *Animal Control Commission hearing minutes from May 28, 2026.

F. REPORTS

F.1. Report from Sandra Hill, Animal Control Manager.

F.2. Update from Sandra Hill, Animal Control Manager, on the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Animal Shelter Replacement project.

F.3. Update from Commissioner Rosenberg on the Fairbanks Animal Shelter Fund.

G. NEW BUSINESS

- G.1. Discussion and potential recommendation to the Animal Control Manager and the Borough Mayor on possible changes to address issues regarding regulations and code enforcement for properties or facilities that keep a large number of animals, to include but not limited to impoundment procedures and penalties.
- G.2. Discussion and potential recommendation to the Borough Mayor on possible FNSB Code amendments regarding expanded criteria for classifications of dangerous and nuisance animals as outlined in Chapter 22.20 FNSBC.

H. EXCUSE FUTURE ABSENCES

I. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

J. ADJOURNMENT

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH
Animal Control Commission Hearing
April 20, 2026
6:00 p.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER

A hearing of the Animal Control Commission was held Monday, April 20, 2026, in the Mona Lisa Drexler Assembly Chambers of the Juanita Helms Administration Center, 907 Terminal Street, Fairbanks, Alaska.

B. ROLL CALL

There were present:

April Johnson	Molly Sherman
Ronnie Rosenberg	Karen Wilson
Cas Rudy, Vice-Chair	Gail Gardner, Chair

Comprising a quorum of the Commission, and

Sandra Hill, Animal Control Manager
Raeanne Ross, Animal Control Officer
Mary Foster, Animal Control Officer
Noel Cruz-Perez, Animal Control Officer
Kimberly Imbert, Animal Shelter Operations Supervisor
Aurora Marhenke, Assistant Clerk I

Members Absent and Excused

Ivan Kvapil (absent)	Kailyn Olnes (excused)
----------------------	------------------------

C. SCHEDULED APPEALS

- C.1. An appeal filed by Robert Heinbuch appealing a dangerous animal determination.
Name of owner: Robert Heinbuch
Regarding the animal known as: Raph
Microchip: 981020027826923
Incident No: B26-003624
Incident Date: March 20, 2026

The Clerk administered a group oath to the parties and witnesses.

SCHEDULED APPEALS – continued

Chair Rudy imposed a thirty-minute time limit for each party to present its case and testimony from witnesses.

Animal Control staff presented the staff report, including testimony from Jennifer Hecimovich, Mary Foster and Raeanne Ross, Animal Control Officers; and Lilith Gridley, bite victim with her mother, Anna Halfhill. Based on the staff analysis, Animal Control recommended the dangerous animal determination be affirmed.

Commissioners questioned Animal Control staff.

The appellant/owner questioned Animal Control staff.

Robert Heinbuch, appellant/owner, presented his case, including testimony from witnesses Dylan Sparks and Brian Phelan.

Commissioners questioned the appellant/owner.

Animal Control staff questioned the appellant/owner.

Animal Control staff addressed testimony given during the appellant/owner's presentation.

ROSENBERG,
Seconded by JOHNSON

moved to affirm the dangerous animal determination and adopt seven conditions and eight findings of fact in Incident No. B26-003624.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- Second condition prevents kids from wandering into an area where the dog could bite them.
- Lock on a kennel or fence as suggested in the conditions, being sufficient to prevent injury to others.
- Conditions in place to protect the dog as much as potential bite victims.
- Importance of preventing the dog from biting again.

SCHEDULED APPEALS – continued

VOTE ON MOTION TO AFFIRM THE DANGEROUS ANIMAL DETERMINATION AND ADOPT SEVEN CONDITIONS AND EIGHT FINDINGS OF FACT IN INCIDENT NO. B26-003624.

Yeses: Rosenberg, Sherman, Gardner, Wilson,
Johnson, Rudy

Noes: None

MOTION CARRIED 6 Yeses, 0 Noes

CONDITIONS

1. Proof that the animal has been neutered by a licensed veterinarian must be provided to FNSB Animal Control by 5/01/2026.
2. You must keep the animal securely confined when indoors, and it may not be left outside unsupervised unless confined within a securely enclosed and locked kennel for outdoor use. The kennel must be in place at the residence where the animal resides and inspected by 5/01/2026. The kennel may be reinspected periodically as long as the animal remains classified under these conditions. The inspection shall be at a reasonable time and in a reasonable manner to verify compliance. Refusal to allow an inspection within 5 business days may be considered a violation of the conditions. If the animal's location of residence changes, a new kennel inspection must be performed at the new location.
 - a) The fencing material should be heavy-duty enough to prevent the animal from chewing, breaking, or digging through it.
 - b) The kennel must be at minimum 6' x 6' x 6', have a secure top and bottom to prevent the animal from escaping, and have a lock to prevent access to the kennel.
 - c) Whenever the animal is not in the kennel, it must be leashed and controlled by an adult on public and private property. The animal may not be tied out or unattended on a leash at any time.
3. A sign indicating a dangerous dog is on the premises must be posted at the primary entrance to the property or residence. Proof that the sign has been posted must be provided to Animal Control by 05/01/2026.

SCHEDULED APPEALS – continued

4. The animal may not be transported in the open bed of a pick-up truck; it must be enclosed within the vehicle. While enclosed in a vehicle, no window may be opened wide enough to allow the animal's head to be outside the vehicle.
5. The animal shall not be allowed access to children other than your own unless supervised by an adult who is physically present at all times and capable of controlling the animal.
6. If you transfer ownership of the animal, you must turn over these conditions to the new owner, as they will be required to abide by them. You and the new owner must both contact Animal Control to transfer ownership. At this time, the conditions will be transferred to the new owner. Transfer of ownership must be done prior to the animal leaving your physical custody.
7. You must provide Animal Control with your valid physical and mailing addresses. If either address changes during the life of the animal, you must provide written notice to Animal Control within twenty (20) days. If the animal is maintained at a location other than your physical address, you must inform Animal Control of the animal's location as soon as possible.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. This bite incident was reported to FNSB Animal Control by Fairbanks Memorial Hospital through an incident report received by FNSB on 03/21/2026 per FNSBC 22.24.020(C).
2. The animal was identified by the victim's guardian as involved in this bite on 3/20/2026, which resulted in a moderate injury to the victim described as bruising to the arm and 3-4 puncture wounds to the leg, causing breaks in the skin per FNSBC 22.24.010.
3. The animal was properly immunized against rabies at the time of the bite incident per FNSBC 22.24.060.
4. The animal was microchipped per FNSBC 22.16.060 and 22.24.030(A).
5. A 10-day quarantine protocol predicted to end on 03/30/2026 was followed per FNSBC 22.24.030(A) and no signs or symptoms of rabies have been reported as of the issuing of this document.
6. The animal was quarantined on the owner's premises at the discretion of the Animal Control Officer per FNSBC 22.24.030(B).

SCHEDULED APPEALS – continued

7. This is the second bite incident involving this animal to be reported to Animal Control, per FNSBC 22.24.020.
 8. The animal intentionally inflicted a bite on a human, per FNSBC 22.04.010 and 22.20.010(A)(1).
- C.2. An appeal filed by Robert Heinbuch appealing a dangerous animal determination.
Name of owner: Robert Heinbuch
Regarding the animal known as: Raph
Microchip: 981020027826923
Incident No: B26-003631
Incident Date: March 27, 2026

The Clerk administered a group oath to the parties and witnesses.

Chair Rudy imposed a twenty-minute time limit for each party to present its case and testimony from witnesses.

Animal Control staff presented the staff report, including testimony from Jennifer Hecimovich, Mary Foster and Raeanne Ross, Animal Control Officers. Based on the staff analysis, Animal Control recommended the dangerous animal determination be affirmed.

Commissioners questioned Animal Control staff.

The appellant/owner questioned Animal Control staff.

Robert Heinbuch, appellant/owner, presented his case, including testimony from witness Brian Phelan.

Commissioners questioned the appellant/owner.

Animal Control staff questioned the appellant/owner.

Animal Control staff addressed testimony given during the appellant/owner's presentation.

JOHNSON,
Seconded by GARDNER

moved to affirm the dangerous animal determination and adopt eight conditions and six findings of fact in Incident No. B26-003631.

SCHEDULED APPEALS – continued

Discussion ensued on the following:

- Free blueprints online for building large dog kennels.
- Conditions imposed for the protection of the animal.
- Preventing future bite incidents in order to avoid euthanasia of the animal.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AFFIRM THE DANGEROUS ANIMAL DETERMINATION AND ADOPT EIGHT CONDITIONS AND SIX FINDINGS OF FACT IN INCIDENT NO. B26-003631.

Yeses: Rosenberg, Sherman, Gardner, Wilson,
Johnson, Rudy

Noes: None

MOTION CARRIED 6 Yeses, 0 Noes

CONDITIONS

1. Proof that the animal has been neutered by a licensed veterinarian must be provided to FNSB Animal Control by 5/01/2026.
2. You must keep the animal securely confined when indoors, and it may not be left outside unsupervised unless confined within a securely enclosed and locked kennel for outdoor use. The kennel must be in place at the residence where the animal resides and inspected by 5/01/2026. The kennel may be reinspected periodically as long as the animal remains classified under these conditions. The inspection shall be at a reasonable time and in a reasonable manner to verify compliance. Refusal to allow an inspection within 5 business days may be considered a violation of the conditions. If the animal's location of residence changes, a new kennel inspection must be performed at the new location.
 - d) The fencing material should be heavy-duty enough to prevent the animal from chewing, breaking, or digging through it.
 - e) The kennel must be at minimum 6' x 6' x 6', have a secure top and bottom to prevent the animal from escaping, and have a lock to prevent access to the kennel.
 - f) Whenever the animal is not in the kennel, it must be leashed and controlled by an adult on public and private property. The animal may not be tied out or unattended on a leash at any time.

3. A sign indicating a dangerous dog is on the premises must be posted at the primary entrance to the property or residence. Proof that the sign has been posted must be provided to Animal Control by 05/01/2026.
4. Proof the animal has been evaluated by a certified animal behaviorist must be provided to FNSB Animal Control by 5/1/2026 and the owner must follow the recommended treatment plan.
5. The animal may not be transported in the open bed of a pick-up truck; it must be enclosed within the vehicle. While enclosed in a vehicle, no window may be opened wide enough to allow the animal's head to be outside the vehicle.
6. The animal shall not be allowed access to children other than your own.
7. If you transfer ownership of the animal, you must turn over these conditions to the new owner, as they will be required to abide by them. You and the new owner must both contact Animal Control to transfer ownership. At this time, the conditions will be transferred to the new owner. Transfer of ownership must be done prior to the animal leaving your physical custody.
8. You must provide Animal Control with your valid physical and mailing addresses. If either address changes during the life of the animal, you must provide written notice to Animal Control within twenty (20) days. If the animal is maintained at a location other than your physical address, you must inform Animal Control of the animal's location as soon as possible.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. This bite incident was reported to FNSB Animal Control by the victim's guardian through an incident report received by FNSB on 03/27/2026 per FNSBC 22.24.020(C).
2. The animal was identified by the victim's guardian as involved in this bite on 3/27/2026, which resulted in a moderate injury to the victim described as bruising and abrasions to the arm per FNSBC 22.24.010
3. The animal was properly immunized against rabies at the time of the bite incident per FNSBC 22.24.060.
4. The animal is microchipped per FNSBC 22.16.060 and 22.24.030(A).
5. This is the third bite incident involving this animal to be reported to Animal Control, per FNSBC 22.24.020.

SCHEDULED APPEALS – continued

6. The animal intentionally inflicted a bite on a human, per FNSBC 22.04.010 and 22.20.010(A)(1).

D. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Animal Control Commission, the hearing was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH
Animal Control Commission
May 4, 2026
6:01 p.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Animal Control Commission was held Monday, May 4, 2026 in the Mona Lisa Drexler Assembly Chambers of the Juanita Helms Administration Center, 907 Terminal Street, Fairbanks, Alaska.

B. ROLL CALL

There were present:

Molly Sherman	Gail Gardner
Ivan Kvapil	Ronnie Rosenberg
Kailyn Olnes	Karen Wilson
April Johnson, Vice-Chair (arrived at 6:03 p.m.)	

Comprising a quorum of the Commission, and

Sandra Hill, Animal Control Manager
Kimberly Imbert, Animal Shelter Operations Supervisor
Aurora Marhenke, Assistant Clerk I

Members Excused

Cas Rudy, Chair

C. MESSAGES

C.1. Citizens' Comments - limited to three (3) minutes

C.1.a. Agenda items not scheduled for public hearing

None

C.1.b. Items other than those appearing on the agenda

None

C.2. Disclosure and Statement of Conflict of Interest

MESSAGES – continued

None

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the consent agenda passes all routine items indicated by asterisk (*) on the agenda. Consent agenda items are not considered separately unless any commission member or citizen so requests. In the event of such a request, the item is returned to the general agenda.

KVAPIL, Seconded by GARDNER	moved to approve the agenda and consent agenda as read.
--------------------------------	--

VOTE ON MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA AS READ.

Yeses:	Sherman, Olnes, Gardner, Rosenberg, Wilson, Kvapil, Johnson
--------	--

Noes:	None
-------	------

MOTION CARRIED	7 Yeses, 0 Noes
----------------	-----------------

E. MINUTES

E.1. *Animal Control Commission hearing minutes from December 29, 2025.

Without objection this measure was read by title and approved under the consent agenda.

E.2. *Reconvened Animal Control Commission hearing minutes from January 6, 2026.

Without objection this measure was read by title and approved under the consent agenda.

E.3. *Animal Control Commission hearing minutes from January 28, 2026.

Without objection this measure was read by title and approved under the consent agenda.

E.4. *Animal Control Commission meeting minutes from February 2, 2026.

Without objection this measure was read by title and approved under the consent agenda.

E.5. *Animal Control Commission hearing minutes from February 27, 2026.

MINUTES – continued

Without objection this measure was read by title and approved under the consent agenda.

E.6. *Special animal Control Commission meeting minutes from March 9, 2026.

Without objection this measure was read by title and approved under the consent agenda.

F. REPORTS

F.1. Report from Sandra Hill, Animal Control Manager.

Sandra Hill, Animal Control Manager, and Kimberly Imbert, Animal Shelter Operations Supervisor, reported on the following:

- Additional staffing.
- Statistics, program and shelter updates.
- Animal Care Expo by Human World for Animals.
- Disaster Preparedness.
- FNSB will host Alaska Animal Control Association Conference.
- Outreach programs.
- House Bill No. 335 establishing emergency disaster plans for animals.
- House Bill No. 348 regarding feral cats.

F.2. Update from Sandra Hill, Animal Control Manager, on the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Animal Shelter Replacement project.

Sandra Hill, Animal Control Manager, and Kimberly Imbert, Animal Shelter Operations Supervisor, reported on the following:

- Construction contract being awarded to Watterson Construction.
- Construction bid coming in low, underneath the engineer's estimate.
- CIP Animal Shelter Replacement project site work expected to begin this month.

F.3. Update commissioner Rosenberg on the Fairbanks Animal Shelter Fund.

Commissioner Rosenberg provided an update on the Fairbanks Animal Shelter Fund and how they would be raising money at a Pet Awareness Day event at the Tanana Valley Fairgrounds. Ms. Rosenberg explained the high funds raised and also high funds spent during months when vet bills topped \$20,000 through the biggest vet expenditure which is dental.

G. EXCUSE FUTURE ABSENCES

None

H. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Sherman questioned the progress on Animal Control's low cost spay and neuter program.

Staff reported intention to hold one monthly low-cost spay/neuter clinic (excluding the winter holiday season), performing about 11 surgeries per clinic (primarily dogs, with some cats), on a first-come, first-serve basis for Borough residents, with fees pending FNSB approval, and noted operational challenges including efficient slot utilization and maintaining a backup list for cancellations.

Commissioner Sherman shared that a former Commissioner, Thomas "Swanny" Swan, had passed away recently, praising Mr. Swan's advocacy for sled dogs and all animals. Ms. Sherman assured other commissioners that his surviving sled dogs would be well cared for and requested a moment of silence for remembrance of Mr. Swan.

I. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Animal Control Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH
Animal Control Commission Hearing
May 28, 2026
6:00 p.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER

A hearing of the Animal Control Commission was held Thursday, May 28, 2026, in the Mona Lisa Drexler Assembly Chambers of the Juanita Helms Administration Center, 907 Terminal Street, Fairbanks, Alaska.

B. ROLL CALL

There were present:

Gail Gardner
Ronnie Rosenberg
Cas Rudy, Chair

Ivan Kvapil
April Johnson, Vice-Chair

Comprising a quorum of the Commission, and

Raeanne Ross, Animal Control Officer
Aurora Marhenke, Assistant Clerk I

Members Absent and Excused

Molly Sherman (excused) Kailyn Olnes (excused) Karen Wilson (absent)

C.SCHEDULED APPEALS

- C.1. An appeal filed by Erik Snuggerud appealing a dangerous animal determination.
Name of owner: Erik Snuggerud
Regarding the animal known as: Yeager
Microchip: 981020057553234
Incident No: B26-003646
Incident Date: April 19, 2026

The Clerk administered a group oath to the parties and witnesses.

SCHEDULED APPEALS – continued

Chair Rudy imposed a thirty-minute time limit for each party to present its case and testimony from witnesses.

Animal Control staff presented the staff report, including testimony from Raeanne Ross, Animal Control Officer. Based on the staff analysis, Animal Control recommended the dangerous animal determination be affirmed.

Commissioners questioned Animal Control staff.

The appellant/owner had no questions for Animal Control staff.

Erik Snuggerud, appellant/owner, presented his case, including testimony from witnesses.

Commissioners questioned the appellant/owner and their witnesses.

Animal Control staff had no questions of the appellant/owner.

Animal Control staff addressed testimony given during the appellant/owner's presentation.

JOHNSON,
Seconded by ROSENBERG

moved to affirm the dangerous animal determination and conditions and adopt eight findings of fact in Incident No. B26-003646.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- Learned animal behaviors.
- Reactivity of the animal.
- Reasonable conditions.
- FNSBC 22.20.010(B)(1) and FNSBC 22.20.010(B)(5).
- Severity of wound being extreme.
- FNSBC 22.20.010(B)(6).
- Dog being pinned down while in pain from an ear infection.

SCHEDULED APPEALS – continued

VOTE ON MOTION TO AFFIRM THE DANGEROUS ANIMAL DETERMINATION AND CONDITIONS AND ADOPT EIGHT FINDINGS OF FACT IN INCIDENT NO. B26-003646.

Yeses: Kvapil

Noes: Gardner, Rosenberg, Johnson, Rudy

MOTION FAILED 1 Yeses, 4 Noes

RUDY,
Seconded by GARDNER moved to reverse the dangerous animal determination and conditions and adopt nine findings of fact in Incident No. B26-003646.

Discussion ensued on clarifying the additional finding of fact to be added.

VOTE ON MOTION TO REVERSE THE DANGEROUS ANIMAL DETERMINATION AND CONDITIONS AND ADOPT NINE FINDINGS OF FACT IN INCIDENT NO. B26-003646.

Yeses: Gardner, Johnson, Rudy

Noes: Kvapil, Rosenberg

MOTION CARRIED 3 Yeses, 2 Noes

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. This bite incident was reported to FNSB Animal Control by Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center through an incident report received by FNSB on 04/21/26 per FNSBC 22.24.020(C).
2. The animal was identified by the owner/victim's guardian as involved in this bite on 04/19/26, which resulted in a moderate injury to the victim described as "bites to lips, 4 puncture wounds above top lip, 'T' shaped wound above lip wound to left cheek. 3 sutures place and 2 steri strips" causing a break in the skin per FNSBC 22.24.010

SCHEDULED APPEALS – continued

3. The animal was properly immunized against rabies at the time of the bite incident per FNSBC 22.24.060.
4. The animal is microchipped per FNSBC 22.16.060 and 22.24.030(A).
5. A 10-day quarantine protocol predicted to end on 04/29/26 was followed per FNSBC 22.24.030(A), and no signs or symptoms of rabies have been reported as of the issuing of this document.
6. The animal was quarantined on the owner's premises at the discretion of the Animal Control Officer per FNSBC 22.24.030(B).
7. This is the first bite incident involving this animal to be reported to Animal Control, per FNSBC 22.24.020.
8. The animal intentionally inflicted a bite on a human, per FNSBC 22.04.010 and 22.20.010(A)(1).
9. The evidence provided shows exceptions per FNSBC 22.20.010(B)(1), FNSBC 22.20.010(B)(5), and 22.20.010(B)(6).

D. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Animal Control Commission, the hearing was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.