



**CITY OF BILLINGS
POLICE DEPARTMENT
ANIMAL CONTROL DIVISION**

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MEETING MINUTES

MEETING PURPOSE:

Circus Animals in
Billings

**MEETING DATE AND
LOCATION:**

May 22, 2019
Zimmerman Center
1801 Virginia Lane

ATTENDEES:

Animal Control Board
Members, Cara
Chamberlain, John
Scheuering, Delmar
Schmidt

Special Guest, Council
Woman Penny
Ronning

Animal Control Staff:
Tom Stinchfield,
Animal Control
Supervisor

RECORDED BY:

Kristal Ward

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairperson Cara Chamberlain called meeting to order

A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the April 3, 2018 & September 11, 2018 were approved



II. PRESENTATION OF CIRCUS ANIMALS IN BILLINGS

(Presented by Cara Chamberlain)

A. Protestors vs. Complaints

People protesting the circus being in town are totally different from somebody That is filing a legitimate complaint. A complaint must have probable cause For Animal Control to respond. An example of a complaint would be if the Animals were left outside with no water.

B. Threat to public safety

C. Safety risks to children

D. Health and safety risks to the circus animals

E. Circuses without wild animals

F. Exploitation of wild animals

Chairperson Cara Chamberlain talks about whether an ordinance change Would be the proper approach and if there were to be an ordinance drafted That it would have to be enforceable by Animal Control. Also discusses whether Our City is equipped to deal with an elephant or any of these animal getting loose in the city

Counsel woman Penny Ronning states that our Ordinances reflect what We believe as a Community

Animal Control Supervisor Tom Stinchfield concludes that what he is Hearing is that the public doesn't necessarily want to ban circuses, just To ban circuses that involve animals

1. John Scheuering make a motion to further investigate this topic and Take a look at the ordinances that are being used in other cities
Delmer Schmidt seconds the motion

III. ANIMAL CONTROL

A. Job duties of an Animal Control Officer

B. How can we improve the images of Animal Control Officers

C. Outreach programs and educating the public

Tom Stinchfield lead a discussion regarding animals being left in hot Vehicles and what policies and procedures the Officers follow when they Encounter an animal in distress in this situation

Cara Chamberlain talks about Public Service Announcements on this
To educate the public on this subject

IV. MEETING ADJOURNED

Chairperson Cara Chamberlain moves to adjourn the meeting