

Animal Cruelty Investigations Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 31, 2023

Board Attendees:

Adams, Sally
Fowler, Sean
Haas, Kristin
Holm, Erika
McFaun, Mary
Nolan, Aimee
Whipple, Trevor

Public Attendees:

Kaitlyn Levine
Wilda L. White

I. ACIAB-Animal Cruelty Response Training

Sally Adams made a motion that the ACIAB, through its Chair, Erika Holm, send a letter to the House and Senate Committees on the Judiciary requesting a one-year extension of the deadline referenced in 13 VSA §356, which requires the ACIAB to develop and approve an animal cruelty response training for approval and administration by the Vermont Criminal Justice Council by December 31, 2023.

Mary McFaun seconded the motion.

Trevor Whipple offered a friendly amendment to include reference to 20 VSA §2365b in the motion along with 13 VSA §356. Sally Adams accepted the friendly amendment.

A voice vote was held. The motion passed 7-0-0.

II. Draft Legislation to be introduced by Senator Watson

The Board took up consideration of a [draft bill relating to animal welfare](#) to be introduced by Senator Watson. Board members took turns asking questions and offering comments on the draft bill.

The Board will continue its discussion at its next meeting.

Chair Holm reported that she plans to add the comments of the Vermont Humane Federation Working Group to the document. The Vermont Humane Federation Working Group is focused on transport, rescue, registration, and licensing.

III. Next Steps

Chair Holm will send a Doodle poll to board members to schedule the next meeting of the ACIAB.

Chair Holm asked board members to continue making comments on the draft bill, which has been uploaded to SharePoint.