



**Community and Veterans
Services Department**
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Overview of the Animal Services Advisory Board (ASAB) Purpose

The Manatee County Animal Services Advisory Board (ASAB) is an advisory-only body established to help the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) stay informed about animal services and welfare issues in Manatee County.

Resolution R-26-006 (adopted February 17, 2026) restates and reaffirms the ASAB’s continued existence, updates its membership structure, and replaces the prior Resolution 15-165. The ASAB may be disbanded or reorganized by the BOCC at any time.

Core Purpose

The ASAB exists to provide thoughtful advice and recommendations on policy and operational questions related to animal services and welfare that are referred to it by the Board or County Administration. Its role is strictly advisory—it does not make binding decisions or set County policy on its own.

Key Duties

The ASAB performs only those functions directed by the Board, including:

- Accepting and acting on animal-related questions or issues referred to it.
- Recommending improvements to County policies, procedures, and the Code of Ordinances concerning animal services/welfare.
- Developing proposals to engage and coordinate private community groups working on animal-related issues.
- Assisting County Administration in creating educational materials and programs on responsible pet ownership, volunteering, and fostering.
- Making recommendations on future funding, resources, and operational options for the County’s animal control operations.
- Performing other tasks as directed by the Board.

Important Limitations

- The ASAB cannot self-assign projects or initiatives.
- It cannot take policy positions in the name of the County unless authorized by the BOCC.
- All work products are presented to the BOCC primarily through written reports (and, when appropriate, live presentations).
- Members must receive training on Florida’s Sunshine Law, Public Records Act, and Code of Ethics and are personally responsible for compliance. They may not discuss ASAB business outside of properly noticed public meetings.

VACANT
District 1

AMANDA
BALLARD
District 2

TAL
SIDDIQUE
District 3

MIKE
RAHN
District 4

DR. BOB
MCCANN
District 5

JASON
BEARDEN
At Large

GEORGE W.
KRUSE
At Large

Structure and Operations

The ASAB has 11 members appointed by the BOCC, drawn from specific categories (e.g., representatives of animal-focused nonprofits, a licensed veterinarian, a recent animal adopter, recent volunteers with 80+ hours of service, and someone with business/finance/operations expertise). It meets quarterly, requires a quorum of 7 members, and operates under standard public meeting requirements (open to the public, noticed agendas, minutes, opportunity for citizen comment, etc.).

In short, the ASAB serves as a structured channel for community input to inform the BOCC on animal services and welfare matters while remaining firmly under the BOCC's direction and subject to all applicable transparency laws.