

SCHD Advisory Committee
Dangerous Dog Appeal Hearing Minutes
May 12, 2026, at 6:30 pm

Attendance

Committee Members: Dr. Shane Sundlie, Daniel Cumbo, Brittany Serafini, Dr. Cynthia Davis, Russell Devane, Theodore Thomas, Eddie Parker.

County Employees: Wanda Robinson, Cherish Allen, Sgt. Jesse Spence, Deputy James Sessoms, Anna Ellis.

- I. **Call to Order:** Dr. Shane Sundlie called the hearing to order. Dogs in question are Copper, Tucker, Sasha and Cruz. Owners are Carlie and Cindy Beasley.

II. **Dangerous Dog Hearing:**

- a) Overview of Dangerous Dog Hearing Process: Dr. Shane Sundlie reviewed Article 1A. Dangerous Dogs Sections (a) (1) a. and b; (2) a. b. and c. (See attached). Dr. Sundlie explained that all speakers will have five minutes to speak, then will be asked questions by the Committee. She explained that it is important to stay on topic and give facts of only exactly what happened and what was witnessed during the events that occurred on 04/17/2026.

b) Public Comment:

Dr. Shane Sundlie called Carlie Beasley to speak. Mr. Beasley was sworn in under Oath by Wanda Robinson.

- Mr. Carlie Beasley read his written statement as follows:
“On April 17th around 6pm, my wife, stepdaughter, and myself had been working in the yard. After we finished my wife and stepdaughter went in to get their baths. I went to get something to put on the grill. I wasn’t in the house any more than two minutes when I went back out, I found McKenna laying on the ground in a fetal position. The dogs were around her, but they were not biting or messing with her. Copper, Tucker and Sasha were bouncing and barking, and Cruz was at her feet barking at the other dogs. I went to her and saw blood on her left ear and a puncture wound on her left arm. They appeared to be nail punctures from a paw. I picked her up and started with her across the yard to take her back to her grandparents’ house, that’s when mother met me halfway of the property saying I didn’t know it was you. She took McKenna and said, “I was on the phone with Angela”, and then she took McKenna into the house belonging to her parents Don and Wanda Edwards.”

Mr. Beasley stated that the four canines were not aggressive and would never intentionally harm anyone. He stated that he honestly thought that when McKenna came onto the property, the dogs thought they had someone to play with. He confirmed McKenna did have scratches and punctures, but there were

no tears in clothing, and he did not witness the dogs pulling at her clothing. Mr. Beasley stated that three of the four dogs are not familiar with small children, and Cruz was the only one who had ever been around small children. There are other small dogs and cats in the home, on the property, some owned by his mother-in-law and sister-in-law and they have never bothered or chased them. He stated that his Mother-in-law had been over and in the back yard several times with no issues. Dogs do wear electrical collars that will shock them if they are to go outside the perimeter.

Dr. Cynthia Davis requested the breed, age, sex, spay/neuter status of all four dogs. Mr. Beasley responded that all dogs were a mixed breed. Cruz was 5, male, neutered, mixed with hound dog. Both Tucker and Copper are 3, male, neutered, mixed with some type of hunting dog. Sasha is 1 year, female, spayed, mixed Dutch Sheppard. Copper and Tucker weigh around 45-50 lbs. and Sasha and Cruz are the largest at 60-65 lbs. Dr. Cynthia Davis asked how old the child was and if she comes over often; Mr. Beasley stated he thought McKenna was around three years old and that this was the first time she had ever been over by herself.

Russell Devane asked if this was the first incident of McKenna being in Mr. Beasley's yard without supervision. Mr. Beasley responded, yes.

Dr. Theodore Thomas questioned the injuries appearing to be punctures from the dog's nail, not teeth. Mr. Beasley explained that to him, they did not appear to be bites.

Russell Devane asked how far the grandparents' home was from the property of the canines. Mr. Beasley stated that from their property line to their back door is roughly 130 feet. He then stated that it was approximately the same distance from his property line back to the grandparents' front door. At the time of the incident, he stated that McKenna had managed to make it approximately 230 feet away from the mother, without any supervision.

Dr. Shane Sundlie asked for confirmation that McKenna was in Mr. Beasley's yard. Mr. Beasley confirmed that McKenna was in fact in his yard, approximately 10 feet past the perimeter of the underground fence.

Dr. Cynthia Davis asked Mr. Beasley if the dogs were barking or whining when he noticed what was going on. Mr. Beasley stated that McKenna was in a fetal position and the dogs were around her bouncing and Cruz was barking. Dr. Cynthia Davis asked for confirmation that he did mention earlier that McKenna's clothing was not torn. Mr. Beasley stated that her clothes were not torn.

Dr. Shane Sundlie called Cindy Beasley to speak. Mrs. Beasley was sworn in under Oath by Wanda Robinson

- Cindy Beasley stated that she had witness statements, vet records, and photos of her dogs that she passed around. She reiterated her husband's statement of three of the dogs had never been around children, which is the reason that there are no photos of those three dogs with children. Mrs. Beasley stated that she was not outside when the incident occurred and the only thing she has knowledge of are the photos that have been shared. She stated that based on the definitions of a Potentially Dangerous Dog and Dangerous Dog, the injuries do not match the definitions and that is why she has asked for this appeal. Everyone that lives on the property is family and there have never been any complaints about the dogs leaving their property, going on another family members' property, damaging anything or bothering anyone because they always stay within range of their collars. Mrs. Beasley stated that family did visit at Thanksgiving, however she locked the dogs up. She also has chihuahuas in the home, which get put up when family comes over as well. She stated that they live two-tenths of a mile off the road. They regularly have migrants working in the field beside their home, which the dogs have never bothered. There are chicken pens within 3 feet of their range, and her sister has 15-20 cats that her dogs have never bothered. Mrs. Beasley stated that this was a terrible accident that she wished had never happened. As a result, she has installed a four-foot fence since the incident, around her backyard to prevent anyone else from being able to access her backyard.

Dr. Cynthia Davis questioned the "Caution" label on Tucker and Copper's vet records. Mrs. Beasley stated that was because they could not be confined in the same pen together.

Dr. Shane Sundlie called Elizabeth Morgan to speak. Ms. Morgan was sworn in under Oath by Wanda Robinson

- Elizabeth Morgan requested to explain how gentle Cruz, Copper, Tucker and Sasha are. She proceeded to state that all four of them slept in the bed with her every night. She has not slept well since they were taken to the shelter on 4/17/2026. She explained how well they listened and gave an example of how they sit and wait patiently during feeding and treat time. They love to play and love her autistic brother. She takes Cruz with her to pick up her brother from work. She stated that during a traffic check, Cruz was in the front seat and caused no problems with the police officer. Ms. Morgan stated that she personally checks their collars for tightness and battery life nightly. She ended with, "They are just big babies."

No questions from the committee.

Dr. Shane Sundlie called Kristen Goodrich to speak. Mrs. Goodrich was sworn in under Oath by Wanda Robinson

- Kristen Goodrich (Mother of child) explained that she was outside on the phone with her mother-in-law standing in front of her car. She explained that her car was a big car, and McKenna was at the back of the car playing in the dirt. She stated that she was unaware that McKenna wanted to see her cousin Elizabeth because she didn't go earlier. She stated that she was looking for McKenna because she got quiet. She did notice that Beasley's dogs were playing with something but could tell what it was. When she noticed it was McKenna, she started to run over, but her uncle got to her first. She stated that she was not worried about Cruz, however, she had not been around the others. They do visit on Holidays, but dogs are always put up. She explained that she had an indentation on her arm and her ear was injured. Mrs. Goodrich stated that McKenna is comfortable around dogs. She stated that there has been an incident when the dogs chased her older son on the golf cart and killed a cat. She admitted that had she been two seconds sooner, maybe this would not have happened.

Dr. Shane Sundlie asked if the dogs were out of their yard when they were said to be chasing the golf cart and had killed a cat. Mrs. Goodrich stated she was not there at that time, she does not know. She was told this by family members.

Russell Devane asked if McKenna had nightmares since the attack. Mrs. Goodrich stated the first few nights were rough, but she is better now.

Dr. Cynthia Davis asked Mrs. Goodrich to confirm that there were no sutures, only flush and irrigation. She confirmed, yes, they decided not to glue it back due to depth.

Dr. Cynthia Davis asked if the dogs had their collars on at the time of the incident. Mrs. Goodrich stated they were on to the best of her knowledge. She asked if the mom heard any commotion. Mrs. Goodrich stated that McKenna did not scream.

Dr. Cynthia asked if McKenna ran off often or was this out of character. Mrs. Goodrich stated that she does not run off often. She stated she just wanted to go see her cousin. Dr. Cynthia Davis then asked for confirmation that the dogs never left their area and Mrs. Goodrich confirmed the dogs in question never left their area.

Dr. Cynthia Davis asked if prior to this incident Mrs. Goodrich was worried about these dogs. Mrs. Goodrich stated yes, they were worried about the dogs. Dr. Cynthia Davis then asked if there were any concerns about these dogs, then why didn't Mrs. Goodrich have eyes on her daughter? Mrs. Goodrich stated she was

on the phone talking to her mother-in-law. She then stated that the dogs had their collars on, therefore she was not worried about her daughter not being in a safe environment.

Russell Devane asked Mrs. Goodrich if the phone call she was on at the time of the incident was a crisis. Mrs. Goodrich stated that it was just a regular conversation.

Dr. Shane Sundlie called Allen Goodrich to speak. Mr. Goodrich was sworn in under Oath by Wanda Robinson

- Allen Goodrich (Father of child) passed around photos, that were on his cell phone, that showed the injuries that McKenna had from the incident. He stated that he did not know much about the dogs in question as he does not visit often. He only visits when picking up his children. He explained that he has raised and been around dogs and knows the difference between a puncture and a scratch. He stated that due to the swelling at the elbow, McKenna did have to have an x-ray to rule out any bone damage, which Dr. Shane Sundlie followed up by stating that result was normal. He mentioned the golf cart incident as previously mentioned by his wife.

Dr. Cynthia Davis asked Mr. Goodrich if he had been around the dogs in any capacity. Mr. Goodrich stated that he was not there much.

Dr. Shane Sundlie asked how long it had been since the golf cart incident. He stated that it had been possibly over a year. But he wasn't there.

Brittany Serafini asked Mr. Goodrich if the dogs stand at the edge of their collar perimeter when people are in the area. Mr. Goodrich stated that if they see someone they do watch and are alert, but they do not bark.

Dr. Shane Sundlie called Wanda Edwards to speak. Ms. Edwards was sworn in under Oath by Wanda Robinson

- Wanda Edwards stated that her sister was the owner of the four dogs. She stated that all the family on the property had a feeling about the dogs. She stated that her and her sister had discussed putting up a fence prior to this incident, however neither one of them had the money at the time. Ms. Edwards did confirm that any incidents that have occurred were on the dog's property. She stated that the cat that was mentioned earlier did cross onto the dog's property. When Mrs. Goodrich brought McKenna into the home, she was screaming and upset. Photos were taken at the time to ensure injuries were healing properly. Mrs. Edwards does admit that McKenna is frightened now of these dogs. She is concerned about how McKenna will act once the dogs are back in the yard. Ms. Edwards stated that her sister has done everything she can

to make sure the dogs cannot go any further than their underground fence, since the incident.

No questions from the committee.

Dr. Shane Sundlie called Deputy Sessom to speak. Deputy Sessoms was sworn in under Oath by Wanda Robinson

- Deputy Sessoms (reporting Animal Control Officer) recapped the incident report. He stated the father (Mr. Allen Goodrich) made the 911 call. When he arrived at the place of the incident he spoke with the grandparents first then went across the property to speak with the Beasley's. He stated that Mr. Beasley had all four dogs secured and were mainly concerned about McKenna. At that time, he obtained vet records for all four dogs; three dogs had a recently expired rabies vaccine status. Deputy Sessoms stated he kept in touch with the Beasleys; incident happened on Friday and by the following Monday they had already installed a four-foot fence around the backyard property. He stated that the other issues he was made aware of that day had not ever been reported.

Dr. Cynthia Davis asked Deputy Sessoms to share his interaction with the dogs in question. He stated that he uses a catch pole for all animals that he encounters just as a precautionary measure, although none of the four dogs acted aggressive or growled. He did mention that two of the dogs had to be in separate kennels and could not be put together.

Russell Devane asked if Deputy Sessoms felt as if the child was safe now. Deputy Sessoms stated that a four-foot fence had already been installed and that he advised the Beasleys to ensure they could lower the wireless radius so dogs could not access the newly installed fence.

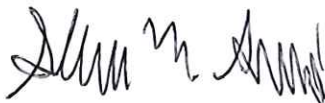
Dr. Shane Sundlie called Anna Ellis to speak. Ms. Ellis was sworn in under Oath by Wanda Robinson

- Anna Ellis, Director of the Sampson County Animal Shelter, stated that during the initial ten-day quarantine, shelter staff are not allowed to interact with the dogs. She stated that after the quarantine period, the dogs were stand-offish, however they were never aggressive. Ms. Ellis explained that this behavior is normal when dogs are taken from their home and put in a different environment. Since the end of the ten-day quarantine period staff have been able to leash the dogs with no issues.

No questions from the committee.

- c) Discussion: Dr. Shane Sundlie repeated the definitions of a "Potentially Dangerous Dog" and a "Dangerous Dog". Dr. Shane Sundlie requested a vote of the committee if there were no additional questions or discussion. She first asked for a show of hands from members in favor of upholding the Potentially Dangerous Dog determination; no members voted in favor. She then asked for a show of hands from members in favor of overturning the declaration that the dogs in question were potentially dangerous; seven members voted in favor.
- d) Determination: The committee determined to not uphold the Potentially Dangerous Dog ruling.

III. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned by Dr. Shane Sundlie.

 7-20-26

Shane Sundlie Date
Chair

 1/21/26

Wanda Robinson Date
Secretary