

**St. Clair County Animal Services
Minutes for Meeting
At the Courthouse – 6:00 P.M.
August 29 2016**

Members Present:

Carol Clark
Michael O'Donnell
Robert Trentman
Fred Boch
Michael Baker

Members Absent:

Steve Reeb, Chairman
Oliver Hamilton, Sr., Asst. Chairman

Others Present:

Mark Kern, Chairman, St. Clair County Board
Lisa Porter, Chief of Government Affairs
James Jacquot
Cheri Weaver
SCC Animal Welfare Advocates

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Ms. Clark.

Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

The roll was called and a quorum declared present.

Stand for the Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION by Mr. Boch to approve the minutes of the July 25, 2016.
Second by Mr. O'Donnell.

Vote: 5 yes 0 no

Motion Carried.

New Business: Agreement between St. Clair County and local rescues for temporary housing for at risk animals. Jim Jacquot replied that Lisa Porter drafted it, if she would like to speak on the subject. Lisa Porter replied, Pursue to an amendment to the pursuant to the language on amendment that was effective January 1, 2016. We've drafted an agreement on that which would allow for temporary and potentially permanent placement of pregnant animals, cats and dogs to any of the rescues facilities and I think that we may have even had a couple already have do that. Jim Jacquot replied yes. Lisa Porter also stated that Jim Jacquot will be in charge of that, and we will work with any of the rescues that are interested. Jim Jacquot replied he would get a copy of the agreement to the interested rescue. This also includes puppies and kittens.

Open Comments:

(All of the following questions were directed to James Jacquot, Director Animal Services, unless indicated.)

Q: Michelle Walpole: Is the equipment in the trucks yet for the Chameleon, and is Chameleon being used yet.

A: We are picking up the first truck tomorrow, they finished it today.

Q: So is Chameleon being used

A: There is going to be a training period, as far as the kennel management.

A: MARK Kern, the computers are in, it takes about a day to put one in, since all of the trucks are in service we have to take one out of service a day. So we are going to rotate them in and it should be a week or so that all of the equipment are in the trucks.

Q: Unidentified: So when will the training start

A: As soon as data processing schedules it we are going to do it in their training room so, that is usually pretty quick. So we will do one at a time or two guys at a time. I think the girls in the office are pretty familiar with it already.

Q: Unidentified: Are they using it

A: We use it in our adoption center

Q: Unidentified: But on the other side you are still not using it

A: No, we haven't stated using it

Q: Unidentified: You use it for registration

A: Yes, actually that is what Chameleon was purchased for, was our pet registrations. I know I keep reading that we spent \$9,000.00 and we just don't use it, which is the furthest thing from the truth. We bought it to do our pet registrations which generates over \$400,000.00 a year. So that \$9,000.00 that we spent on that has been generating \$400,000.00 a year since we purchased it.

Q: Unidentified: Yes but it does so much more. You are planning on using it more, to track numbers and things.

A: Yes

Q: Unidentified: Can the staff use it now.

A: They are going to go to training also, to do the kennel management. Because there is a lot of things. I know you think Chameleon automatically generates reports.

Q: Unidentified: I know you have to learn how to use the software

A: Not only that, once we decided what kind of reports we want to generate, there will need to be crystal reports made through Chameleon, they are just not there. You have to make that yourself.

Q: Unidentified: They could be doing that in the office already though, but you just haven't done training for that

A: No, we haven't done training yet

Q: Dennis McDonald: Have you guys looked into whether they have reports

A: Yes, that is what I was talking about.

Q: You reports like that but I develop that stuff, most platforms will have a pre easy setup they will have a base set of reports that come with the product then they will have an

A: I'm sure it does, I am not a data processing person per-say. We do have a department that does that, they are going to write the reports.

Q: Ok, so you have a place that does that.

A: Yes:

Q: Shelia Ford, Shiloh: I was wondering, we have asked about this before, will Ashley be getting her own E-mail service, to work with rescues And network out the animals

A: Do you want an E-mail

A: Ashley Jett: I do it all through face book messenger, text messaging or phone calls.

A: That is something she has never really requested to have, and you guys have brought it up and I've asked Ashley, she is pretty comfortable the way she is doing it.

A: Ashley Jett: I don't know how much more E-Mails would help me. Face book messenger is pretty good, we network with Stray Angels, it's a one time, I wouldn't have access to face book on my computer, so, I would rather just do it from my phone and make the phone calls to the rescues that I have made contact with. I work well the way it is.

Q: Unidentified: What rescues have you made contact with

A: Ashley Jett: Belleville Area Humane Society, APA, Helping Strays of Monroe County, Hope Rescue, I mean pretty much, If I need help I call rescues that I don't normally use, but APA, Partners for Pets, Belleville Area Hume Society, Helping stray of Monroe County are first on my list.

Q: Cindy Campo, Belleville: You have a contract with Belleville Animal Clinic, is that correct.

A: Correct

Q: Can you explain how that is how they are picked and dollar wise how much the contract is for, what that covers and so forth and how does that all work

A: It is a financial contract and I do not believe that needs to go out for bid.

A: Mark Kern replied, it is about \$19,500.00 per year.

A: Yes

A: Mark Kern: It covers all the medical services that go through the, well Jim you go ahead

A: It covers all the vaccinations they do. Rabies vaccinations, finale exams on bite cases. They are in our facility every day, and they do a walkthrough of the facility The only vaccinations they do in our facility is rabies. Which is required by law.

Q: Unidentified: So there getting paid that money to do a walk through every day

A: Yes and they are on call

A: Mark Kern: And they euthanize

A: No they don't do that.

Q: Unidentified: So it is just given to them each year, is that right

A: Yes, it's been that way

Q: Unidentified: Why

A: We have been happy with them, they have always had at least five vets, and in the past prior to them we had trouble getting the vet there. We had a contract with Dr. Lindauer who had a mobile vet service; well she gets out and gets tied up with something we would go for a whole day. They have five vets a Belleville Animal Clinic and always available to us day or night.

Q: Unidentified: And if they see an animal in trouble, what do they do

A: If they think it needs medical attention then they tell us, if they think it needs to go to their clinic, it goes to their clinic.

Q: Unidentified: Is there any criteria as for as in trouble

A: That's a medical things, I don't know what the criteria is

Q: Unidentified: You would need to know I think, Can we get answers to those questions, a detail

A: For the most part, what they do is pain management for the most part of the animals we get. We really don't have the ability to treat an animal that is not ours unless it is life threatening situation, because we don't have custody of those animals.

Q: Unidentified: Is it a phone call I'm sorry I just don't know the procedure. If you see an animal in trouble and the vet that we have a contract with can't treat that animal, is somebody else called in and take the animal.

A: No if they can't get there we take the animal to them.

Q: Unidentified: To whom

A: Belleville Animal Clinic

- Q: Unidentified: Ok, but you said they cannot treat, they are not allowed to treat
A: They are not, but if it's a pain management, we get animals hit by cars all the time, some more severe than others.
- Q: Unidentified: Is there a rescue organization called in at that time to help
A: We have done that in the past. Partners for Pets are really good about taking in injured, or sick animals.
- Q: Unidentified: But do you automatically put out a call, you see these animals a dog that is critically injured and hurt or suffering and all you can do is pain management. At what point is there a criteria for a help call
A: That would be the vet's decision on what they think needs to be done
- Q: Unidentified: Seems like a lot of gray area, it's kind of fuzzy, seems like more detail on that would be really good.
A: We will try to get something
- Q: Unidentified: Regarding that contract, the professional contract with the government entities. Is it because, it is county?
A: I don't know, Lisa you can speak on that
A: Lisa Porter: She is an independent contract
- Q: Unidentified: Everyone is asking why it does not go out to bid, we don't understand it. Isn't that a requirement
A: Lisa Porter: Because of the amount I think it has to be over \$30,000.00 dollars and this is \$19,500.00, so there are no legal requirements
- Q: Brittany Pieper, Belleville: I had a question on what humane care cases from there looking at them. There not bleeding but you know some type of failure, how, you say there not in your custody but, but letting them sit there for months at a time on
A: No animal sits in our facility
- Q: There was a dog that sat
A: No
- Q: Unidentified: Yes
A: No, wait, I don't know if you have the facts, the dog was in our facility for 25 days. Ten of those days were a police impoundment that dog was taken out of, and on the 10th day that was made available and it sat there for 15 days with nobody wanting that dog. In that same period of time, rescues took 27 dogs from our facility, it's not like that dog wasn't available.
- Q: Unidentified: Instead of blaming the rescues
A: I'm not blaming the rescues; I understand they have to make choices like everybody else.
- Q: To me, it's the vet's responsibility, they seen that dogs suffering, and they should have said something, I'm not blaming you guys and I'm not blaming the rescues for not pulling the dog. I'm saying that is a problem with the vet.
A: There is no way a vet could tell a dog is in renal failure

Q: Unidentified: Oh come on Jim, every one of us could tell the dog was in physically poor condition.

A: And I understand that

Q: Unidentified: Why wasn't the dog treated

A: The dog had two options, either a rescue take her or she would have to be put down.

Q: Unidentified: Why did the vet refuse to treat the dog

A: She never refused to treat the dog, she was never asked to

Q: Unidentified: Can you see why people are concerned about the vet, and you defend them.

A: And you think a vet, what would they have done. Take the animal out of there

Q: Unidentified: They could have euthanized her or treated.

A: That was an option, but, there were people who wanted to try to place her, Ashley for one

A: Ashley Jett: I thought a better thing to do would be to try to get her into a rescue over euthanized, I felt bad for her she obviously had a horrible life. I'm mean was it bad for me to let her sit there for 15 days, probably, did I know she had renal failure, no? But you guys say there were two vets that looked at that animal. We have pictures of her on Stray Angel's website, we had a video of her on Stray Angel's website, but nobody called and said do you think that dog needs to be put down. Bottom line do you want the dog euthanized or go to a rescue?

Q: Unidentified: Give me the vet contract, I can walk through, and say everything looks fine.

Q: Unidentified: Couldn't there been something even if the vet put it was pain management and we have to act quick and put the work out as part of their normal duties during their daily inspection. Why are you going to pay for daily inspection then you saying this happened to this poor animal? You go through you say ehh, let's try to get it adopted and let's let it suffer. You can do both. You can help the animal and still push to try to get them adopted. That is the point that everybody here in defensive posture, that's why everyone gets defensive. Instead of saying well we'll look at that case. We want you to think outside the box. Just a little bit. You're making progress some people are talking about that's great, but there is still this defensive, things could have gone better. With that I think most people would say that is progress But this defensive stance where, I'm an Animal Lover too, you said you were an animal lover, everybody makes mistakes.

It is part of being humane, the department makes mistakes, and I can surely point out department mistakes. But, we are in past that. Let's start talking about how we can do things, how we can admit it is not always going to be perfect, from this point forward ...going to be some miss steps, stop being so defensive about it.

Q: Jeannie, Belleville: You were saying a while ago about you were taking about this dog didn't get it the medical help. To me that's animal abuse and you guys by not getting it medical help. I mean you seen what kind of home it came out of, and how bad of shape

it was when you pulled it. I mean I'm sure there are charges against these people, for animal abuse, right.

A: I don't know what the police did; it took them 10 days to release the animal

Q: Unidentified: You got the dog out of a bad situation, you done said that. You are no different, putting it back into a bad situation. You're supposed to be there for the animals. You know, either there for the animals or you don't like animals. Your one of the two, so why would you. I've seen pictures of that dog; I wish somebody would have brought a big poster of that dog in here of what that looked like so all these people, so the people on the board know what we're talking about. You're letting animals suffer there; you have a vet that's not doing their job.

Q: Unidentified: I have a related question, what was the vet doing while the dog was here

A: What do you mean, what was she doing

Q: Unidentified: She is walking through the kennels and does not see a dying dog I'm really curious on exactly what exactly what she is doing. I tell you the first night I was here I wasn't impressed about the practice because of her. And I will tell you after hearing about this other dog, I firmly cemented in that decision. I want to know how you have a vet that stands there and walk by a dog that is dying and walks on. You know this is the case and you don't bring it to her attention. Say, we are only paying you this much but can you get this dog some fluids. How can you stand there and do that. I would like an answer.

A: The only answer I can give you is I don't make medical decisions.

Q: Unidentified: Apparently your vet doesn't either, who is in charge

A: I know what would have been said, she would have recommended putting the dog down, that is where we were at

Q: Unidentified: That would have been better for the dog, is that they are suffering, but who is in charge here. Who is the number one person?

A: Me.

Q: Unidentified: So you were in charge.

A: Yes

Q: Unidentified: Right, so you are responsible.

A: I guess I am

Q: Unidentified: What can we do to make this situation better. Another animal is going to be coming in in the same situation, and what can we do to stop the animal from suffering. And not just putting it down automatically, you don't want to be blamed but to get the dog some treatment.

A: I think first of all, the vet contract has to be enhanced a great deal

Q: Unidentified: How do we do that then

Q: Unidentified: Before we go there I would like to know what the veterinarian was paid in total last year, cause you guys don't even know what the contract is, because I read it, and it is not just \$19,500.00

A: No, it includes vaccinations

Q: Unidentified: She gets money for every vaccination that she does and charges you six times of what they cost her. She gets paid, according to the contract, Mr. Kern am I boring you?

A: Mark Kern: No, I looked at the representative from the State's Attorney Office

Q: Unidentified: She gets paid according to the contract; she gets paid every time a dog gets released from there alive, for a live release exam

A: No, this

Q: Unidentified: No, I would like to see what she got paid last year

A: Just bite cases

Q: Unidentified: Paid in total, and \$16.00 every time she vaccinates a dog, the physical action of vaccinating a dog, \$16.00 is charged to the county. Not including the vaccine, correct.

A: We buy the vaccine

Q: Unidentified: You buy the vaccine for her; she charges you \$31.50 for a \$2.50 rabies shot.

A: No, we buy most of our vaccines from Med-Vet

Q: Unidentified: From where

A: Med-Vet

Q: Unidentified: Ok, and do you know, I mean what are they costing you. You're not getting them through her

A: I would have to go back and look at the last order, I think we bought the last ones from Zoetis, so we shop around we just don't

Q: Unidentified: What was Belleville Animal Clinic paid last year, do I have to do a Freedom of Information Act to get that

Q: Unidentified: How much was the vet paid last year, a full report

Q: Unidentified: \$19,000.00 the a la carte services are in there and top that at no problem

A: Yes we can get that; I would have to go to the auditor's office to get that

Q: Unidentified: I'm asking the board chairman

A: Mark Kern: We will have to put the numbers together like everything else. I just want to make sure everyone understands adoptions are way up this month we are at a 72% save rate, and which is numbers that I don't think really gets out there. Jim and his staff are working real hard; the reason they held onto that animal is because they wanted it to get adopted out. These are thing I think we need to encourage; this is an attitude we need to encourage then for working toward that. Are there problems, yes, it's a difficult job and you get animals that come in injured, that have been abused, injured that has been hit by vehicles, but there is nobody at that entire facility that and nobody that sits on this committee that isn't an animal lover. So we meet once a month and that is how it stands, we talk about these things, and once get to a place of no kill. It takes a lot to get there. This is not an instant thing, I don't know of anyone that wouldn't like to try to do that. Elsewhere we are going to have to work with people that have done it. But we have had the conversation we hope we can try to get there for a period of years. We are already to over 70% if those numbers hold and I guess no kill is probably 90% that statistic is. So let's see how we get there. We are talking about the cats, and that is an issue that is going to need to be worked out, that's one that has many ramifications.

●: Pam Muckensturn: I appreciate everything you guys are trying to do. I'm wanting a change in attitude a change of heart, some compassion because I'm telling you right now, if all of us walked out this door, nothing would be done. You're doing it, because we are pushing you to do it. I don't see a change of attitude from Jim, what so ever. Ashley has always been onboard to rescue. But it has to come from the leader. And until he changes and make the changes nothing will happen. We shouldn't have to give up our time to keep coming to these meetings to babysit him to do his job. And that is exactly what we are doing.

A: Mark Kern: So I would say that Jim can defend himself. Before these meetings started and you started to come we built the adoption center. We didn't have anyone come to us and say hey St. Clair County needs to get into the adoption business. We put the money forward, Jim came up with the design of that building, many worked on it, and some of the members are sitting here tonight. The adoption center is a big part of how many animals we are adopting out every month. Jim, in that facility did we do

A: So far this year we have done 171

A: Mark Kern: So we've done 171 animals out of our adoption center. That was all done, and I'm just saying this committee has been working on this, and we appreciate you being here. It is only through this conversation that it is going to deliver the kind of service you want from us.

●: Unidentified: Have you reprimanded Jim at all. Have you had a sit down? We can't be having this anymore. This has got to stop, have you done that.

A: Mark Kern: We're all working together in these meetings. As I said, Jim does a good job at what he does.

●: Unidentified: Those 171 adoptions, were those actually people coming in and adopting or did rescues pull them.

A: Mark Kern: No, they were actually adopted from St. Clair County, the new animal adoption center. It's really not that new.

●: Unidentified: I was tracking the website after it got fixed and it showed zero, all you have to do is call Chameleon and say hey, One day I think there were nine animals in the adoption center. It's always been between four and seven. The cages are never full. For the last week in a half to two weeks, it has been the same five animals, on the page.

●: Unidentified: I don't believe them, it's a lie.

●: Unidentified: It's great the tax dollars were utilized to add things and that's all fine, but if you don't utilize it. So for most of the people in this room it's that fact that progress is great, forced progress is a lot harder. I drove quit crazy to get here, I went a little fast, I had to get here and I got here late. The problem that when you stand here, I came to my first meeting a couple of months ago, and just listened and keep an open mind. I have relatives in this room, friends in this room that are passionate people and are able to do so many wonderful things. I get it that you guys are not evil, not here to paint you evil, I know you have done great things, its fine if you add to the cause, that's wonderful. It's the relinked, openly we can improve in areas, for some reason you can't admit when you're wrong. And there is room for improvement, or that you just don't

care enough to stand up for what you're doing, that's all we have to do legally. We legally only have to do this. Then I missed the meeting last month, couldn't get off work, then I come to this, some progress but we still have this, hey the vets doing a good job. Even though we have had cases put out there that would say, that it could be better. If you just say listen we'll look into it. Short and sweet. Show us what you are talking about, I'm trying to give advice to keep you out of the hottest water because these people. Be willing to admit there is something that needs to change. Leave that change, just go out there and lead it. You want everybody here to be friendly to you, the only thing you can do is lead. Because that is what your job is. That's what you get paid for. It's one or the other, I'm being honest. You can lead the change or, someone else will lead the change.

●: Unidentified: I have a question as for as how the board members end up on the board, is it a volunteer thing.

A: Mark Kern: These guys, the members are appointed to the various committees, there are many committees in the county, and there are appointed to them.

●: Unidentified: May we see again, we went through this the first meeting but it was too crowded, does anyone know the last time any of the board members have been in animal control.

A: Committee Members: Bob Trentman, three weeks ago, and the adoption kennels were full that day, Michael Baker, a few months ago, Fred Boch, about a month ago, we were late in leaving Jim's office and we set off the alarm, because everyone was gone. I was there to see Jim to address the concerns of the rescue groups. Michael Baker I have taken my daughter down there to look at animals too. Michael O'Donnell, it has been several months. I have been doing a drive by, checking out the dog park. It looks real nice. Carol Clark, It's been a while for me, but I have had several health issues, that have prevented me from getting out.

A: Bob Trentman: So you ask what somebody did and looked at when they went down there, so, I showed up one day unexpected, just knocked on Jim's door, we sat and talked a little bit, then walked the kennels. I was asking him about how they are hosing out with the dogs in there Jim explained how the dogs are being moved around, what space is available. I don't know how he does it, but he said they do it as much as they can. He moves then to clean without dogs in the kennels.

●: Unidentified: But there are dogs still in the kennels being cleaned at the same time.

A: Bob Trentman: I wasn't there when they were cleaning. So then we walked outside, Jim and I talked about a place somewhere out here for additional kennel space, to move dogs. So Jim said he is working on it. I am going to hold him to that.

●: Unidentified: He said he was working on it at the last meeting

A: Bob Trentman: What I am telling you is, he is working on it. You asked what we do when we go there, so I looked at the adoption center, and kennels were full. We went outside and we talked to Jim about extra kennel space. I think it is going to happen, if you want to know the truth, ok. We talked some more and he explained some adoption things and I asked him a bunch of questions, and that is what we discussed.

Q: Unidentified: And that is not my concern, you're not my concern. If the rest of the board were like you, I wouldn't have a problem.

Q: Unidentified: You just said you didn't verify anything, you just talked to him. You didn't see anything; you don't know how he did it. And that is everything I have heard from the meetings.

A: Bob Trentman: We talked about the dog park across the street,

Q: Unidentified: You really just checked with him verbally. You really aren't sure if anything is being done, he just said.

A: Bob Trentman: What do you mean I just stopped in to see what was going on down there. I talked to Jim

Q: Unidentified: When exactly were you there? I remember two months ago you said the same thing when someone asked you when you were there. You said it was a few months, because you had medical problems and couldn't go there. Has it been six months a year?

A: Carol Clark: Probably more than six months, I was there last year sometime

Q: Unidentified: Do you see what we are all doing here. Something should have been accomplished in one month time. Additional kennels, I don't think that is unreasonable, to have something in the works.

A: I have met with the building commission, and we have selected a sight. Next Thursday we are meeting with an architect, because we just can't put up kennels, we have to have sewer lines and everything else for the outside

Q: Unidentified: At the last meeting you had indicated what weather conditions might prevent you

A: Again this will have a roof over it. It will not be enclosed, it will have a roof over it, it will have a walk way that will have, the weather can't get to. People moving animals in the ice and snow.

Q: Unidentified: How many kennels are there

A: Fifty-two

Q: Julia, Missouri: I am co-founder of Gateway Pet Guardian, that does a lot of work with animal control. I have a couple of questions. Regarding the cleaning of the kennels, I believe when we talked last time you only have one person clean at a time, and typically we use two people at the same time cleaning kennels, it gets done quicker with the two of them, instead of having two people clean at separate times. Is it possible to have the two clean at the same time. Because then when an issue occurs, like the bite you have someone there, to help.

A: We do have two people cleaning

Q: Unidentified: But at the same time and same cage

A: Yes, actually one of them clean the cattery, and one cleans the kennels, when the guy gets done with the cats he goes and cleans the bite case kennels. Which is a whole different situation.

Q: Unidentified: So there still doing it, the guy who does the dog kennels does it by himself. Would you consider changing it.

A: Actually we have made an offer of a job to somebody for that purpose. Right now he's trying to get his college schedule together. He is a young kid in college. He works part time for us know. We are trying to extend his hours, by coming in the mornings for that purpose, which would help a lot. Especially once we have outside kennels. It's going to be a lot more cleaning. Every time we move animals to the outside kennels and clean the inside ones we move them back in then we have to clean the outside before we move more outside. It's going to be double the cleaning process.

●: Unidentified: Did you bring numbers

A: Yes, we have some extra.

●: Kimmy Nasti: We use a cleaning solution at Gateway Pet Guardians in the kennels and the time is less than two minutes. So far a dog to be removed from the kennel can be walked by a volunteer, have you guys revisited that at all. Clean it doesn't need to be rinsed out and especially since you guys don't use blankets. Have you guys thought of that anymore.

A: What is it you are doing in two minutes? I would be more than willing to listen to that.

A: Kimmy Nasti: It is called Wysiwash. I can give you information if you want, you hook it up to your hose, you spray it. It can be used with dogs. So it is safe for them. Let it sit for two minutes, you don't have to rinse it, and the dog can go back in the kennel.

●: Jim Jacquot: You still have to wash out the kennel, correct.

A: Kimmy Nasti: Yes, with soap and water. That takes less than two minutes per kennel.

●: Bob Trentman: I will come over and watch you do that.

●: Unidentified: I am a counselor and work for a non-profit, I guess I'm trying to find out who oversees

A: Department of Agriculture is who oversees us

●: Unidentified: How do they do that

A: They have a guy that comes in every three to four months, that's about as often as we see him, because the state has cut back. They are the ones that come in and check everything we are doing. They check our paperwork to make sure everything is in line.

●: Unidentified: Is that like someone looks at your reports day to day. Is there anyone you answer to, on a day to day basis.

A: County Board Chairman, Mark Kern.

●: Unidentified: Back to the question getting animals out, you say you do a lot of it by face book, or all of it. I found a cat in the middle of the road and brought it in. I asked if there was a chance the cat would be put down otherwise I would have taken it home. I like what you guys are doing and I got my dog from the adoption center. I was told if no one came in seven days I could come back and get it. So I called and said I would like to have the cat. I found it, I was kind of attached to it, I was three miles from animal control, I called them and they said no, it's not yours you cannot have it. I said that's fine, I'm not from here originally there are some rescues back home in Missouri that

would love to take it in. They need to call or send a message I'm not sure. If I could get a call list and get the message spread. I went back a little while later because I called in and asked, has this cat been adopted or in the adoption center. I was told no we don't have it here. Then I went over to Animal Control and I asked what was going on with that cat, and I have a place that wants to get it and actually wanted it. And a few Mondays ago you were out sick. Someone told me well that cat, it was a Monday, they said that cat actually left Thursday or Friday afternoon and went to a foster family, it's been sent to a rescue. I felt great, ok. This cat is going to get a new home. I told my mother-in-law, she has a friend who works with a local rescue. She said guess what kitty got rescued. This kitty was on red alter or what every you call it, and the picture was the exact one that I showed the people that day, just two hours before. It was a picture that was taken off my face book whatever I posted on all of the yard sale pages, saying, is this your cat. So I mean this was the exact picture exact cat.

A: Ashley Jett: No it was not. It was not euthanized.

●: I was lied to

A: Ashley Jett: We had nine cats that were available to be pulled by rescue. Two of those cats looked the same. The one you had brought in and another that left for rescue. He was mistaken when he told you it left for rescue, because I asked him the next day. Amanda contacted me via face book when I was home, and said did this cat get pulled. I told her no it did not. It had been lined up to get pulled by rescue on Tuesday. Because I knew I was not going to be there to do the paperwork. So when an animal comes into Animal Control, we never tell anybody that you can come back after the seven days. I don't know who told you that. I talked to you when you brought the cat in and explained to you after the seven days it would have to be pulled by a licensed rescue to be adopted. You gave me your name and phone number, I said I would pass along the information to the rescue.

●: Unidentified: It seems there was a lack of communication with everyone else, and I just, I had someone who called

A: Ashley Jett: As for as that, I have no ideal, all messages come to my phone and return all messages. If there are any rescues that contact, it comes to me. If there is a message left on the Adoption Center voicemail it gets transferred to me.

●: Unidentified: It shouldn't be just you and on your phone. You guys need a system.

A: Ashley Jett: All rescues come to me.

●: Unidentified: You need a backup.

A: Ashley Jett: I write everything up before. I didn't go home until 10:30 a.m. that day. I came in and made sure all the stuff was done until I couldn't handle it anymore. Then I went home sick.

A: Mark Kern: You are allowed to take a break.

A: Ashley Jett: I arrange everything before I leave.

●: Unidentified: There should be an e-mail set up that goes to her and whoever else, so there is back up. That is basic business.

A: Ashley Jett: Recuses texted me when I am on vacation, then I call Cheri and she will get the paperwork together.

Q: Unidentified: I know you're doing a great job, but that still doesn't work that a county entity that relies on one person through face book to do that. It is not a knock on you. You should have a better system. I get it that you are comfortable with it.

A: Ashley Jett: We have two people who work in the office. If I'm not doing it she is doing it, when I'm not there.

Q: Unidentified: So it's you, her, and Jim.

A: Every rescue that is pulling it comes to my e-mail.

A: Ashley Jett: All of the rescues e-mail us who are pulling animals through Jim. Then Jim would give me a copy. We require every rescue to send us an e-mail to us stating that they are sending such person from that rescue to pull such and such animal. Then we make sure we have there 501C or licenses on file before they can pick up.

Q: Unidentified: How can you use e-mail when you don't have an e-mail address

A: Ashley Jett: They e-mail Jim

Q: Unidentified: I'm a business woman, if I'm paying someone to be at work, I'm not going to pay her to be at work on face book. That's where you're getting the business from, then that does not seem like a reliable source. Yes it is reliable, but face book has glitches, like if you don't receive messages, but also I mean there is a lot of other stuff beside rescues sites on face book. I'm not saying you spend time on other stuff on there.

A: Ashley Jett: It is face book messenger. I am not on face book, but I am on messenger.

Q: Unidentified: If there is an issue where, you guys are at fault for something and we are inquiring about that, it would be much easier through a county controlled system then through someone's personnel face book.

Q: Jamie Case: I have been every quit and this is very touching, sensitive, to me, because Ashley has been always, I mean this is why we really started getting involved in networking and working the animals off the euthanasia list. And supporting her in any way, shape or form. I feel like personally, and Jim told me at the last meeting that he doesn't know why, he doesn't know where I am coming from saying Ashley is not supported. I guess my issue is Ashley gets more animals out of there per year than any other program in this facility. So this program gets out 1,100 of the 4,000 that came in there last year. That is a giant percentage of animals that are leaving that facility. So we are all an applause that is great. That is what is saving the most lives is networking in this entities. I am actually encouraging her job. One person writes on face book, and on her cell phone to do those things. I have been asking Jim and Ashley, for years, to have her come to this meeting. You start bring more people and getting people riled up, Ashley is here. Jim has been getting props for four years before this, and she hasn't. And those are the things and the support that I am talking about. She should, Ashley whatever you do to get 1,100 animals out, let's do it. She has been recognized, in numerous capacities, for the past twelve months. How many county board members, employer, anyone was there to recognize her for those things. A lot of us can because they rescue and pull together and doing all, this is saving lives. This is what should be supported.

We are trying to pull all of these other things together which is very important, but this is one aspect that should really be supported. It is important, lifesaving, and she's doing a great job. And I see more support now, but I just think it goes a long way, so there should be backup. There should a program in place. I run an organization, if there is something really successful, put a program around it. So, if there is this person, there might be someone helping with a procedure, whatever the situation is, these things should be put in place. That's what saving lives are at that facility. Not the 400 that are being adopted every year, it is the 1,100 that are going to rescue. And that opens up a whole network of other things. That's again I don't know what the answer is. If she doesn't want e-mail she doesn't want e-mail. There has to be a way to give her the props.

A: Ashley Jett: We make it work with Sara, Stacy, and all of them who have jobs all day, there using their face book messenger too and we have a group together, that way we just communicate together. I just make it so much easier.

Q: Unidentified: There is so much that could be behind it to make it better, but it is great. I don't know how much better it can be, but more origination and procedures and just more things.

Q: Jerry Altepeter, Swansea: Thank you. The big thing I just sitting here listening to everything, it seems to me sitting back here objectively, that what you people need are policies and procedures. It seems that this committee you're responsible. You're not on here, you were elected, and you're responsible. This man, you're responsible for his actions. What I am telling you, is you have a railroad, you have to be responsible. That's great, but there is no conductor. In the engine, I don't see any goal that is set. You need policies and procedures, in order to make goals. You have to find out, who do you want to be as an entities, three years from now. You don't plan next month, that's flying by the seat of your pants. You need organization, you need a goal. To get there you need policies and procedures. Which you lack. Thank you.

Q: Unidentified: They said a while ago that they told her, that she said when she brought that cat in, that if nobody took it and she wanted to adopt it and said you can't adopt it. How come nobody can adopt those animals that they bring in after seven day hold and nobody claims it.

A: Because by law we can only release then to a licensed rescue, or our adoption center.

Q: Unidentified: Where ever this cat goes if at all possible can you send my name with it. I want this cat.

A: If we have somebody that wants that animal we try to make it happen.

Q: Unidentified: She is not the only person, there was a person who found a stray dog and he told whoever, if no one adopts this dog in seven days I want to come back and adopt this dog and I will pay for everything. He went back, he checked on the dog every couple of days, and he went back after the seven days and was told he could not adopt the dog.

A: Ashley Jett: The Doctor from St. Elizabeth Hospital

Q: Unidentified: The dog had to go to rescue to adopt the dog. Why couldn't he just gone to your adoption center. Why not transfer over to the adoption center.

A: Normally we don't have a problem, most rescue's appreciate taking an animal that they knew they have an adopter. That's usually not a problem.

●: Unidentified: If a person found it and they are willing to wait the seven days let it go to the adoption center and they could get a happy animal

A: We have done that in the past. That animal went to rescue.

A: Ashley Jett: It went to Gateway

●: Unidentified: The correct response is hey there isn't there similar things and the situations are the same. How about I will get with my team and we'll talk about how that won't happen.

A: We have them leave their name and phone number, we will give there information to the rescue.

●: Unidentified: If someone comes in and wants to adopt that dog, why don't you

A: We have in the past.

●: Unidentified: You need to address that with your staff. It is not happening in certain circumstances. You need to address that fast.

●: Unidentified: You don't have a policy. If someone walks in and wants to adopt this animal after the seven days and no one claims it. Policy says you have somebody standing there that wants it; you move it to the adoption center. You keep the adoption fee, why give it to a rescue. The county has kept it for seven days, cared for it watched it feed it, maybe, why not take the money.

A: Ashley Jett: There are a lot of people who call and say they want to adopt the animal; I am not talking about anybody in particular. But there are a lot of people who say they want to adopt the animal that they bring to animal control. After they leave that dog and the seven day time is up they forget about that animal. If it goes to rescue, we had one just the other day. A gentleman who had called and called and we worked with him and worked with him. We found a rescue to pull him; he wouldn't return our phone calls. They didn't have a place for him to go but the said fill out a foster application then they said yes we will get it to you. Every single thing that he was asked, well what if, well what if. What if this animal is aggressive? But when I asked him

●: Unidentified:

A: Ashley Jett: I tell them on day seven I will transfer as soon as that goes. But the Belleville Area Humane Society they have gotten five or six dogs in the last year that they would not normally take and those people do not come back for animals. So they are stuck with a dog.

●: Unidentified: I'm saying call once call twice calls three times to that person. When confirmed the it moves. Maybe it's just not a one time.

●: Unidentified: All you have to say is come up here to the adoption center.

A: Ashley Jett: Maybe we can do that, call once call twice or three times then we will move on. The people who want the animal we would give them to try to get ahold of, if not if our adoption center would want it we would move to dog.

Carol Clark: Jim is going to work on the issue of, if somebody brings in a stray and they say they want the stray and the animal is adoptable then we will move it to the adoption center opposed to sending it to rescue.

Ashley Jett: Yes we have a someone who wanted a dog, we had a rescue that would take him but didn't have room, and they were going to take it as foster base. They had him fill out an application to foster through there organization and then he was going to adopt. He had the dog in his care for three days, and then didn't know if it get along with his animal his cats, and what if, what if.

●: Unidentified: I know I called several times to check on it. Just things like that go back to showing there needs to be procedures. I'm sure any of the rescues in here if you would of called and said I have someone really interested and needs to apply to be a foster parent. You know, stuff like that.

●: Unidentified: What about using Chameleon system when animals get dropped off. So say you drop an animal off, ideally it would be given a number right then. This is the animal we check in, this is the time it was brought in, goes into then who ever one of the four in that facility you walk back in and say, let me look that up. Your name is this; it attaches you to this cat that went to this rescue. That is not happening right now. They are still put on little stacks of paper.

A: Are the rescue willing for us to give that information out.

A: Ashley Jett: We don't disclose to anybody which rescue the animals go to because the rescues don't want their information given out.

●: Unidentified: The point is any employee could have gone in the system and seen exactly

A: Bob Trentman: Hey hold on, let's do this, were getting all mixed up here. So can we get a policy in one month, me you, and two people that are here. You and you we will meet and try to get a policy together by next month.

A: That's fine

●: Bob Trentman: Ok we will work on a policy for this issue.

●: Unidentified: The is just one question I would like to have an answer on, when we all get together. If somebody brings a stray into Animal Control adoption I'm way back why don't you just let the person adopt the cat right there.

A: There may be an owner looking for it. That is what the seven day hold is for.

●: Unidentified: I have a couple of issues, I will go real fast. I work with policies and procedures with the Federal Government, and a contracting officer and now I am an advocate for these and what us does as for as putting it out for bid, I agree with her. I know those forms we go by the daily but. You can put it out for bid, there is nothing stopping you. To have multiple vets that way you have back up, so you can write your solicitation. You must have five vets on duties at all times. And you put your requirements in there of what the vets need to do, and they bit on them. You can do all

types of contracts all different ways. There is nothing that says I have to have Belleville Animal Clinic. I use Belleville Animal Clinic, and I have used them for many years. However I am rethinking after the things I have heard. But I have no problem with the clinic myself. But there is no reason not to get a different kind of contract out for bid and you can have multiple. On who is on call when you have a problem, there is nothing stopping this. As for as policy procedures I have worked for over ten years I understand you have huge policy procedures to which we have to many. But I will also if somebody wants me to look at or review, I would be happy to do it.

Carol Clark; I am sorry, some of the members have other meeting to attend, so Jim will look into that the veterinarians contract, looking into kennel sites for the outside, Still working on the cat issue for you, and work on setting some policies and procedures up. Setting some goals for the future

MOTION to adjourn by Mr. Boch. Second by Mr. O'Donnell. Motion carried.