

**St. Clair County Animal Services
Minutes for Meeting
At the Courthouse – 6:00 P.M.
November 27, 2017**

Members Present:

Steve Reeb, Chairman
Robert Trentman, Asst. Chairman
Michael O'Donnell
Fred Boch
Scott Tieman

Members Absent:

Carol Clark
Steve Gomric

Others Present:

Lisa Porter, Chief of Government Affairs
June Chartrand, St. Clair County Board Member
F. X. Heiligenstein, St. Clair County Board Member
Bob Allen, St. Clair County Board Member
James Jacquot, Director, Animal Services
Cheri Weaver, Deputy Director, Animal Services
Area Rescues
Randy Pierce, Resident

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mr. Reeb.

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. O'Donnell to approve the minutes of the October 30, 2017.
Second by Mr. Tieman.

Vote: 5 yes 0 no

Motion Carried.

Open Discussion:

Jim Jacquot announced to the committee that the St. Clair Adoption Center had taken ten pets to the Gifts From The Heart any the where all adopted. Right now we only have one animal that is not adopted in our adoption center. We had three but late this afternoon we got applications on two. We are just waiting to get surgeries so we can move the animals out of the holding area.

Bob Trentman called the adoption center and was told they have one kennel open.

James Jacquot replied that we have one that is going in tomorrow. We had three that where in there and one was adopted and two late this afternoon got adopted. We are up to thirty-two adoptions this month, which is higher than we have ever been by a long shot. They have installed our UV lights in the kennels. They are working on installing our commercial washer and dryer, they have been working on that all week. It will be placed in our garage. For the month of October the live release rate is eighty two percent. We are right at seventy-four for the year.

Steve Reeb announced that some of the people in attendance were asking about the update on the No Kill resolution.

James Jacquot replied we have been meeting on it, but Lisa is not available right now. We have met about three hours so far and we are about half way through it.

Steve Reeb said you are about half way through it and have already spent three hours, so it is in progress.

Shelia Ford, SCCAWA asked, do you feel it will be done by the end of the year?

James Jacquot replied, I'm not sure of that, it will be done when it's done, but it is in the works. There is no deadline what so every, it was approved and the end of the year was just a goal. It's not going away if we don't have it.

Bob Trentman asked what groups have been pulling animals.

James Jacquot replied that we have gone through that today. We are actually ahead in transfers this year then we were last year. But, the four groups that took seventy percent of our transfers last year are only down to fifty-two percent this year. So, Ashley has to work a lot harder. The majority or a good portion is going outside of this area. Which makes it harder and a lot more work.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian asked what lead to more adoptions in the adoption center, beside the holiday gift event.

James Jacquot, replied actually we were closed more days in November than other months.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian asked are they coming in faster.

James Jacquot replied no that they are actually coming slower because we held for the event. Right now we are taking in fewer animals because we are holding more animals trying to get them out of there. And we are starting to catch a little bit of grief. I think today when I went through the kennels we had twenty-seven dogs that have been available to leave. So that is twenty-seven kennels that we can't put other animals in, which most of the rescues have seen the animal there. Some of them have been there since September.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian said I can speak for us; we are full, as fast as we can as well.

James Jacquot, replied I can't speak to why certain organizations, everybody is having troubles.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian said they are adults and they sit longer, and they are all black pit bulls.

James Jacquot replied there are not too many black pit bulls, and a bunch of heartworm positive dogs.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian said we got the black pit bulls from the last round. So what about, are you waiting on surgeries, if you can get thirty some animals adopted every month that would be huge.

James Jacquot replied that we try to get twenty that is our goal ever month.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian, asked, is there a lag time on surgeries scheduling, are you waiting on surgeries to be scheduled.

James Jacquot replied that is what we are waiting on right now. All of the animals there are waiting on surgery.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian asked is it a long time to wait.

James Jacquot replied it is longer than normal, but normally we can get them in within two days. There were holidays so the veterinarian's office had people off, so they are not taking as much volume, so we should catch up with that. I think this year already we have adopted out two- hundred seventy eight through today, we will have three-hundred, I'm sure, which is good for us. We are open two-hundred seventy days a year, so that is more than one a day.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian, said and I would really love to see when you guys are working through the plan to look at the quarantine time obviously I have said this a million times between stray hold and the adoption center, to not hold them as long, in that waiting period.

James Jacquot replied, then what would we do, we don't have any place to put them. We have eight animals now waiting to get into the adoption center, and we have animals that are already adopted. There is always going to be that period of time, if we quarantine for three days we would still have a backup in animal control.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian asked does that normally happen, is the adoption center normally full?

James Jacquot, replied yes, pretty much all of the time.

Frank Heilligenstein, St. Clair County Board Member asked, Mr. Chairman is how is this budget going effect their department.

James Jacquot replied we are not getting any extra.

Shelia Ford, SCCAWA will that have an effect on the pet population fund.

James Jacquot replied, we have accounted for that.

Shelia Ford, SCCAWA said I just want to go back talking about the no kill plan, being in place by the end of the year.

Robert Trentman replied you just said it was a goal, right? So we are going to get there, we are going to make sure. We are working on it, it may take an extra month or two, and it's going to happen.

James Jacquot replied, it's really not slowing down, we are actually doing pretty well, right now.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian, I feel like the next step is the adoption center and figuring out how to get more animals moved out of there as well.

James Jacquot replied, the adoption center really isn't a problem. Because we move more animals than all the rescues.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian replied no I get that but, I'm not saying there is a problem necessarily, I just think there are promotion and different things that can happen just to help.

James Jacquot replied the only way we can get more animals in and out of the adoption center is with more kennels.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian asked why, I understand we have a foster program but we only have twelve kennels at our shelter, and we move pretty quickly.

James Jacquot replied ours moves pretty quickly if you think about it.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian replied I don't feel the need to get more kennels though.

Jim Jacquot replied well if we had more kennels we wouldn't have twenty five animals sitting in animal control either.

Robert Trentman asked if there is anyway we could turn any of the kennels that we have, turn them into adoption kennels.

James Jacquot replied those kennels are full also. We have shut down our doors more in the last three months than we have ever, because we are full.

Robert Trentman replied, I would like to know why the rescues are not pulling as much, there has to be something going on there.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian replied because we are full. As an industries in a whole we use to have puppies a lot of puppies, puppies move within weeks. Now that spay/neuter is doing its job, there are no puppies. So we are pulling adult dogs therefore heartworm positive, which takes three months to treat effectively, they may have a behavioral issue or two. If they are an adult black dog verses a black puppy so they just take longer to adopt. So if we are not adopting them as quickly then we cannot pull as quickly. It is an industry, it's not just St. Clair County problem it is everywhere across the country problem. So programming for adult dogs, pit bull terrier type dogs, those types of things are obviously the things that help move things along faster. Jamie asked the question putting those dogs that are sitting for a while, what about putting those dogs up for adoption? They are in the kennels anyway, and putting them at least on the web site, and saying they are up for adoption and if someone is interested having someone come from the adoption center and bring them over and show them. At least they start

getting exposure, and even if they are heartworm positive, it's not a liability on you, you don't have to treat that, and they know they are heartworm positive.

James Jacquot replied and a lot of them we really have no history of their disposition.

James Case, Gateway Pet Guardian replied I know, that does not matter. I don't think that matters.

James Jacquot asked why does that not matter.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian replied we pull dogs not knowing their history, all the time, then we adopt them out.

James Jacquot replied but you're a rescue, you have people supposedly that know how to handle those animals, right. You just going to have someone go up here and say ok you can adopt this animal.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian said I think Julie is great having her there and being able to handle an animal a little bit more. Which she does, she is giving vaccinations, and you can tell pretty quickly if a dog is going to bite your face off. So if they seem to have a good, I mean Ashley are you holding dogs that you feel are aggressive.

Ashley Jett, Animal Services, replied no.

James Jacquot, replied we had a good example of what you were just talking about. We had an animal that we moved into holding, the dog had been there and had been great with everybody then all of a sudden it turned on Tabitha. She was bitten really, really bad.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian replied I know that happens, but that is what happens.

James Jacquot replied but what I'm saying is it is one thing to have it happen to an employee, it's another thing, if that would have been a child, it was a big shepherd mix.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian asked but how do you know the temperament of any of the dogs that you have in your adoption center.

James Jacquot replied, they handle those animals every day, the ones that are in holding, they are moving them every single day.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian replied ok so maybe it's not a blanket, every dog that is sitting there but maybe it is something or maybe they can be handled a little bit more. If Ashley says I know there are those situations where you're like this dog is awesome,

it's been sitting there because of this, this, and this, is that one we can put on the web site at least, because we have a really good feeling it will be adopted. At least it gives the opportunity for that dog to get some exposure.

James Jacquot replied I have no problem with that, I just think it's going to be a problem down the road. I could be wrong.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian replied I think that maybe some of them could be good dogs. There is no rescue that has room.

James Jacquot replied the majority of them like Ashley said are heartworm positive which slows all the rescues down from taking them because it is expensive.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian replied and it takes a long time to treat. But the other thing is, you might have those people in this county that say I want that animal to live, I will adopt it and pay this price. Say like they are in the market for an animal and I have the extra five hundred dollars to treat a heartworm positive dog, that's the dog I want to adopt.

Randy Pierce, St. Clair County resident commented I just want to publically commend Jim and his staff. My spouse and I were one of the couples that picked up a dog for adoption this afternoon and we were very impressed with the service that we received. And the fee that we had to pay for the adoption compared to what some of the others charge, so I want to let everyone know that we are very pleased with the outcome of our experience, I can tell you a lot more but you have a lot of ground to cover tonight.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian said I think we can be creative, what can we do to help alleviate the stress. I get it you are closing doors and that you are going to receive slack for that, and that sucks. What are the answers?

Dawn Blackwell, SCCAWA, I take my personal dog to the animal services along with a rescue and help temperament test and kind of get an idea a little bit of personality, afterwards working really really hard on trying to get these dogs into different rescues. This industry is just tough, but I personally have been going for months and months and months that I have taken my dog there and have passed numerous dogs. You can watch dog language and body language with them and tell whether they are comfortable, excitable, or what is going on with them, in a minimal amount of time. I personally have only had a problem with one or two. Are they not dog friendly or are they uncomfortable with me, it gives an idea of their personality.

Jamie Case Gateway Pet Guardian asked how many dogs you euthanized last month.

James Jacquot replied thirty two.

Jamie Case, Gateway Pet Guardian asked are those owner requested.

James Jacquot replied no, there were nineteen owner requested. There were thirty two, we had four behavior history, those are the ones owners bring in, behavior observation are our bite cases, feral cats, and medical. Thirty two total dogs and cats.

James Jacquot commented that since Belleville has passed the cat ordinance we have not seen them, they have stopped trapping. For us it is good. So I don't know, we sent a letter of participation to SIU, Edwardsville, they are planning to start counting in Belleville the middle of January sometime. That really is an important thing so we know where we are at. Anybody that is actually doing that right now, we just have to find out where you are going to have them fixed. We need to have an agreement with whoever you are using and we can pick up the cost on some of that. We have already purchased the microchips, we are going to require the ones we pay for to be chipped. We got a deal through Datamars three dollars and ninety nine cents, so we got five hundred of those to start with. It depends on what kind of cost we can get from the vets.

MOTION to adjourn by Mr. Boch. Second by Mr. Tieman. Motion carried.

Note: Carol Clark was absent during the roll call, she was present for the open discussion.)

Kennel Statistics Report

Intakes from 11/01/17 to 11/30/17

		CAT	DOG	KITTEN	PUPPY	TOTAL
CONFISCATE		0	2	0	0	2
	EVICTION	0	1	0	0	1
	POLICE	0	1	0	0	1
	TOTAL	0	4	0	0	4
EUTH REQ		0	1	0	0	1
	FIELD OW	0	2	0	0	2
	OTC OWN	4	10	0	0	14
	TOTAL	4	13	0	0	17
OWNER SUR		3	3	4	0	10
	FIELD	0	1	0	0	1
	OTC	11	4	12	0	27
	TOTAL	14	8	16	0	38
RETURN		0	0	1	0	1
	TOTAL	0	0	1	0	1
STRAY		6	23	10	4	43
	FIELD	3	18	3	1	25
	OTC	14	23	12	0	49
	TOTAL	23	64	25	5	117
TOTAL		41	89	42	5	177

Kennel Statistics Report

Outcomes from 11/01/17 to 11/30/17

		CAT	DOG	KITTEN	PUPPY	TOTAL
ADOPTION	WALKIN	5	11	9	2	27
	TOTAL	5	11	9	2	27
DIED	IN KENNEL	1	0	0	0	1
	TOTAL	1	0	0	0	1
EUTH	BEHAV HIST	0	6	0	0	6
	BEHAV OBSV	3	6	0	0	9
	FERAL	4	0	0	0	4
	MEDICAL	6	8	1	0	15
	TOTAL	13	20	1	0	34
RTO	MICROCHIP	2	8	0	0	10
	PHONE	0	9	0	0	9
	TAG ID	0	1	0	0	1
	WALKIN	0	4	0	0	4
	TOTAL	2	22	0	0	24
TRANSFER		17	39	13	2	71
	TOTAL	17	39	13	2	71
TOTAL		38	92	23	4	157

Kennel Statistics Report
Intakes from 11/01/17 to 11/30/17

		CAT	DOG	KITTEN	PUPPY	TOTAL
CONFISCATE	EAST ST LO	0	2	0	0	2
	FAIRVIEW H	0	1	0	0	1
	FREEBURG	0	1	0	0	1
	TOTAL	0	4	0	0	4
EUTH REQ		0	1	0	0	1
	BELLEVILLE	1	7	0	0	8
	EAST ST LO	0	2	0	0	2
	FREEBURG	0	1	0	0	1
	MARISSA	3	0	0	0	3
	O FALLON	0	2	0	0	2
	TOTAL	4	13	0	0	17
OWNER SUR		2	2	4	0	8
	BELLEVILLE	6	3	0	0	9
	CAHOKIA	0	1	0	0	1
	DUPO	1	0	0	0	1
	EAST ST LO	0	2	0	0	2
	MARISSA	0	0	7	0	7
	O FALLON	3	0	0	0	3
	SHILOH	1	0	5	0	6
	SMITHTON	1	0	0	0	1
	TOTAL	14	8	16	0	38
RETURN		0	0	1	0	1
	TOTAL	0	0	1	0	1
STRAY		2	11	6	4	23
	BELLEVILLE	10	13	4	0	27
	CAHOKIA	0	9	0	1	10
	CASEYVILLE	0	3	0	0	3
	CENTREVIL	0	1	0	0	1
	COLLINSVIL	1	2	0	0	3

		CAT	DOG	KITTEN	PUPPY	TOTAL
STRAY	DUPO	1	1	7	0	9
	EAST ST LO	4	6	7	0	17
	FAIRMONT C	0	6	0	0	6
	FAIRVIEW H	0	3	0	0	3
	LEBANON	1	0	0	0	1
	LENZBURG	0	1	0	0	1
	MASCOUTA	2	1	0	0	3
	MILLSTADT	0	1	0	0	1
	NEWATHEN	0	1	0	0	1
	O FALLON	0	3	1	0	4
	SHILOH	1	1	0	0	2
	ST LIBORY	0	1	0	0	1
	SWANSEA	1	0	0	0	1
	TOTAL	23	64	25	5	117
TOTAL		41	89	42	5	177

Kennel Statistics Report

Outcomes from 11/01/17 to 11/30/17

		CAT	DOG	KITTEN	PUPPY	TOTAL
ADOPTION		5	11	9	2	27
	TOTAL	5	11	9	2	27
DIED		1	0	0	0	1
	TOTAL	1	0	0	0	1
EUTH		0	2	0	0	2
	BELLEVILLE	6	8	1	0	15
	CAHOKIA	0	2	0	0	2
	COLLINSVIL	0	1	0	0	1
	EAST ST LO	0	3	0	0	3
	FAIRVIEW H	0	1	0	0	1
	FREEBURG	0	1	0	0	1
	LEBANON	1	0	0	0	1
	MARISSA	3	0	0	0	3
	O FALLON	1	2	0	0	3
	SHILOH	1	0	0	0	1
	SWANSEA	1	0	0	0	1
	TOTAL	13	20	1	0	34
RTO	BELLEVILLE	1	11	0	0	12
	CAHOKIA	0	3	0	0	3
	DUPO	1	1	0	0	2
	FAIRMONT C	0	1	0	0	1
	FAIRVIEW H	0	2	0	0	2
	MASCOUTA	0	1	0	0	1
	MILLSTADT	0	1	0	0	1
	NEWATHEN	0	1	0	0	1
	O FALLON	0	1	0	0	1
	TOTAL	2	22	0	0	24
TRANSFER		2	0	0	0	2

		CAT	DOG	KITTEN	PUPPY	TOTAL
TRANSFER	BELLEVILLE	7	6	3	0	16
	CAHOKIA	3	6	0	2	11
	CASEYVILLE	0	4	0	0	4
	CENTREVIL	0	1	0	0	1
	COLLINSVIL	1	1	0	0	2
	E CARONDE	0	1	0	0	1
	EAST ST LO	1	10	4	0	15
	FAIRMONT C	0	3	0	0	3
	FREEBURG	0	1	0	0	1
	MASCOUTA	2	0	0	0	2
	MILLSTADT	0	1	0	0	1
	O FALLON	0	3	1	0	4
	SHILOH	0	1	5	0	6
	ST LIBORY	0	1	0	0	1
	SWANSEA	1	0	0	0	1
	TOTAL	17	39	13	2	71
TOTAL		38	92	23	4	157

Animals Left In Shelter on 11/30/17: 115