

**St. Clair County Animal Services
Minutes for Meeting
At the Courthouse – 6:00 P.M.
September 24, 2018**

Members Present:

Robert Trentman, Chairman
Steve Gomric, Asst. Chairman
Michael O'Donnell
Fred Boch
Lonnie Mosley

Members Absent:

Carol Clark
James Haywood

Others Present:

Mark Kern, Chairman St. Clair County
Bob Allen, St. Clair County Board Member
John West, St. Clair County Board Member
Susan Grueberman, St. Clair County Board Member
James Jacquot, Director, Animal Services
Cheri Weaver, Deputy Director, Animal Services
Area Rescues

Call to Order

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

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. Gomric to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2018.
Second by Mr. Boch.

Vote: 5 yes 0 no

Motion Carried.

(Note: Carol Clark arrived for the remainder of the meeting.)

Public Comment:

Robert Trentman replied it is time for public comment, if you have a public comment or a question please direct it towards the chair, then keep it to about two minutes if you could and state your name and where you are from, just so we can keep track of it, but you don't have to. Okay, public comments, does anybody have anything.

Katie, BAHs replied so since we have been all on board and full speed with the no kill initiative which is fantastic. Jim and Cheri and I have had many of conversations about what to do with stray animals when we are full and it's one of those things that we are both saying hey check across the street, hey check across the street that kind of thing. We only have at BAHs five quarantine, or intake kennels so we can't take a stray that we don't know vaccination history about when we are full. Now sometimes there is a sign on the gate, or sign on the door that says you are full and luckily we are the first people called if we are holding a stray, which Cheri did that for us last week or a couple weeks ago. But one thing that we can talk about as a group tomorrow too but I just wanted the county's input or feedback on sort of messaging going forward. The facilities are full and we have nowhere to hold strays, besides telling people not to pick up strays, which they do anyway, I myself am guilty of that. I want to figure out what our messaging is when the facilities are full and there is nothing we can really do. I know the adoption center is preparing for the Adopt-A-Thon which we are excited about and I know that changes operations there just like we prepare for an event it changes operations some way shape or form too, but not having access to the stray kennels means that sometimes we are holding animals without space and compromising our populations health. So Jim and I really didn't have a good answer for it, but I do want to brain storm with this entire group as well as the St. Clair coalition group tomorrow to try to figure out what our messaging is going forward, especially with animal control and BAHs being neighbors we are trying to refer people to the other place then we are out of referrals when we don't have space and they don't have space and the messaging is changing from animal control always takes strays to no we don't that's okay I just want to know where that leaves all the animal welfare groups going forward who is also don't have space. So solutions are welcome.

James Jacquot replied we have twenty-one animals today ready to go someplace. So they are taking up twenty-one kennels that normally they wouldn't be there. We are always going to run into that, we just don't know where to put them.

Katie, BAHs replied we can typically give people resources for example, if they are picking up strays we can say can you hold it, take this crate, typically people are on their way to or from work, they have kids, they have other dogs, they can't really hold these strays, we can't hold the strays, and we used to utilize the outdoor kennels that we don't

have access to, I'm sure that as the season changes there will be more room, I'm just trying to figure out what we are to do in the interim and what our collective messaging should be about strays. Now furthermore there are some obstacles which I addressed in e-mail today which is the abandonment issue, which of course we are going to get a camera so we can actually get the people's licenses plates because then we don't even have the opportunity to speak to somebody when an animal is physically tied to our gate or left in a box or a crate, we don't even have the opportunity to have the conversation with someone, I mean we can sometimes convince people to hold a stray until animal control has room, sometimes, but it is pretty unlikely and then with the abandonment issue obviously you don't even have the person to speak to.

James Jacquot replied we had a situation today on an owner surrender, we didn't have room for it, gave him everybody's phone numbers and everything else. Twenty minutes later the dog was in our facility from the City of Belleville, picked up as a stray. It was from Shiloh, drove through Belleville and just dropped it off.

Shelly replied I think the issue of that is what bothers me also is that, that stray dogs belong to someone, so if Katie is holding it and then if she doesn't post it or do some due diligence to find the owner, literally someone could not get their pet returned to them, because no one actually knows where this dog is.

Katie, BAHS, replied we fear that a lot and that is something Jim and I have talked about, if one of these facilities are full and then we are referring people to somewhere in St. Louis, then the animal has traveled so much farther away from its home and it's not in the local community where people are looking. We are all nodding our heads because we all have the problem, I just want to discuss our solutions going forward for how to handle it.

Jamie Case replied I haven't looked at the numbers but I don't know about the owner surrender rate versus the stray rate, is there more on the owner surrender side, because we know that we can target them.

James Jacquot replied we just aren't taking them in.

Jamie Case replied is there a list.

James Jacquot replied on the stray side.

Jamie Case replied how does that work?

James Jacquot replied we just do it in order as, if we are full and someone calls in and they have a stray contained or whatever as soon as we have an open kennel, we will call whoever is next on the list. It is constant anymore, it has been that way all summer,

which is really all that way in the summer, but more so this year because of our no-kill initiative, where we are trying to retain as many animals as possible, I don't know where it goes from there, everybody is full.

Robert Trentman replied I talked to a couple of people today that had some cats, so I guess they might of called down there and you told them we are full. Well they realized that I told them we are not going to put any animals down because of space, we are just full. They go we will just keep our cats we don't want them being put down. So, I think sometimes the county is almost like a dumping ground, people just want an easy way to get rid of their animals. But they were like the husband wanted to get rid of the cats and the wife wanted to keep the cats, so they are keeping the cats.

Jamie Case replied Jim did you say you weren't sure if you were going to be there tomorrow, I have some other thoughts.

James Jacquot replied I have a three thirty meeting, I thought it was at two o'clock.

Jamie Case replied can we move it back up?

Katie, BAHS replied I think so, I think we did it later because Nicole was in school, then it turns out Nicole can't make it, so maybe we can move it.

New Business:

James Jacquot replied as they mentioned we have been spending a lot of time getting ready for our adoption event this weekend. I think everything is pretty lined up, it should be a pretty good event. As for the strays you know we are full all of the time, the rescues are helping as much as possible, it's just no one is taking animals right now. I think we ended the month right about ninety percent as far as live release. But again a lot of that is because we are not taking in a lot of animals, got a lot of good animals that are waiting for someone to take them.

Robert Trentman replied we just have more of a supply then demand for pets I guess. We are just full.

Jamie Case replied hopefully after this weekend, how many will be available from the adoption center.

Ashley Jett replied I have twenty two dogs and twenty one cats

Jamie Case replied and that would empty you out if they were all adopted.

Ashley Jett replied it is still going to be the adoption process.

James Jacquot replied to do that we use our bite case kennels not our stray kennels, to accommodate that. So we have been doing a lot of home confinements on bite cases. So we really haven't used stray kennels, but it doesn't change the fact that we have all of the strays.

Robert Trentman replied so are you ready for the Adopt-A-Thon?

James Jacquot replied right, it is from noon to four Saturday at our facility, should be a pretty good event.

Robert Trentman replied I know I have asked is it a mixture, what animals do we have. Do we still have a lot of pit mixes?

James Jacquot replied always. We will have a lot of those up for adoption.

Robert Trentman replied Ashley do you have anything.

Ashley Jett replied not really, just this event, we will be having live music, food trucks, and lots of vendors, the Humane Society and GPG and all of us trying to get some adoptions.

Mark Kern, Chairman replied and lots of dogs and cats looking for homes, remember that newspapers.

Robert Trentman replied share it on facebook, it's on Saturday.

James Jacquot replied Saturday from noon till four.

Robert Trentmana replied can I have a motion to accept Jim's report. Steve Gomris made the motion to accept the report and Michael O'Donnell second the motion.

Yes 6 No 0

Robert Trentman replied is there anything else from any of the board members.

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

Kennel Statistics Report

Intakes from 09/01/18 to 09/30/18

		CAT	DOG	KITTEN	PUPPY	TOTAL
CONFISCATE	OWNER D	0	1	0	0	1
	TOTAL	0	1	0	0	1
EUTH REQ	FIELD OW	0	1	0	0	1
	OTC OWN	1	8	0	0	9
	TOTAL	1	9	0	0	10
OWNER SUR	OTC	5	1	0	0	6
	TOTAL	5	1	0	0	6
STRAY		1	0	0	0	1
	FIELD	1	31	0	4	36
	OTC	28	27	50	2	107
	TOTAL	30	58	50	6	144
TOTAL		36	69	50	6	161

Kennel Statistics Report

Outcomes from 09/01/18 to 09/30/18

		CAT	DOG	KITTEN	PUPPY	TOTAL
ADOPTION	WALKIN	2	8	2	4	16
	TOTAL	2	8	2	4	16
EUTH	BEHAV OBSV	0	9	0	0	9
	MEDICAL	11	8	1	0	20
	TOTAL	11	17	1	0	29
RELOCATE		0	3	4	0	7
	TOTAL	0	3	4	0	7
RTO	MICROCHIP	1	6	0	0	7
	PHONE	0	5	0	0	5
	WALKIN	0	3	0	0	3
	TOTAL	1	14	0	0	15
TRANSFER		27	29	26	9	91
	TOTAL	27	29	26	9	91
TOTAL		41	71	33	13	158

Kennel Statistics Report
Intakes from 09/01/18 to 09/30/18

		CAT	DOG	KITTEN	PUPPY	TOTAL
CONFISCATE	CASEYVILLE	0	1	0	0	1
	TOTAL	0	1	0	0	1
EUTH REQ		0	1	0	0	1
	BELLEVILLE	0	2	0	0	2
	CASEYVILLE	0	2	0	0	2
	DUPO	0	1	0	0	1
	EAST ST LO	0	2	0	0	2
	O FALLON	1	1	0	0	2
	TOTAL	1	9	0	0	10
OWNER SUR	BELLEVILLE	4	0	0	0	4
	FAIRVIEW H	1	0	0	0	1
	LEBANON	0	1	0	0	1
	TOTAL	5	1	0	0	6
STRAY	ALORTON	0	4	1	0	5
	BELLEVILLE	15	17	17	0	49
	BROOKLYN	1	0	0	0	1
	CAHOKIA	3	6	0	1	10
	CASEYVILLE	1	1	6	0	8
	CENTREVIL	0	3	0	0	3
	COLLINSVIL	0	1	0	0	1
	COLUMBIA	1	0	8	0	9
	DUPO	3	1	5	0	9
	EAST ST LO	0	15	0	5	20
	FAIRVIEW H	1	3	5	0	9
	LENZBURG	0	1	0	0	1
	MARISSA	0	0	1	0	1
	MASCOUTA	1	1	1	0	3
	MILLSTADT	1	0	0	0	1
	NEW ATHEN	1	0	0	0	1

		CAT	DOG	KITTEN	PUPPY	TOTAL
STRAY	O FALLON	0	2	6	0	8
	SHILOH	1	0	0	0	1
	SWANSEA	1	2	0	0	3
	WASHINGTON	0	1	0	0	1
	TOTAL	30	58	50	6	144
TOTAL		36	69	50	6	161

Kennel Statistics Report

Outcomes from 09/01/18 to 09/30/18

		CAT	DOG	KITTEN	PUPPY	TOTAL
ADOPTION		0	0	0	1	1
	BELLEVILLE	1	4	0	0	5
	CAHOKIA	0	0	1	1	2
	CASEYVILLE	0	0	1	0	1
	EAST ST LO	0	1	0	0	1
	FAIRVIEW H	0	1	0	1	2
	FREEBURG	0	1	0	0	1
	MARISSA	0	1	0	0	1
	O FALLON	1	0	0	0	1
	SWANSEA	0	0	0	1	1
	TOTAL	2	8	2	4	16
EUTH		0	1	0	0	1
	ALORTON	0	1	0	0	1
	BELLEVILLE	6	3	1	0	10
	CAHOKIA	2	2	0	0	4
	CASEYVILLE	0	3	0	0	3
	DUPO	0	1	0	0	1
	EAST ST LO	0	2	0	0	2
	LEBANON	0	1	0	0	1
	MILLSTADT	1	0	0	0	1
	O FALLON	1	2	0	0	3
	SWANSEA	1	0	0	0	1
	WASHINGTON	0	1	0	0	1
	TOTAL	11	17	1	0	29
RELOCATE	BELLEVILLE	0	2	0	0	2
	COLUMBIA	0	0	4	0	4
	SWANSEA	0	1	0	0	1
	TOTAL	0	3	4	0	7

		CAT	DOG	KITTEN	PUPPY	TOTAL
RTO	BELLEVILLE	0	5	0	0	5
	CAHOKIA	0	2	0	0	2
	CASEYVILLE	0	1	0	0	1
	EAST ST LO	0	2	0	0	2
	FAIRVIEW H	0	1	0	0	1
	LENZBURG	0	1	0	0	1
	MASCOUTA	0	1	0	0	1
	O FALLON	0	1	0	0	1
	SHILOH	1	0	0	0	1
	TOTAL	1	14	0	0	15
TRANSFER	ALORTON	0	0	1	0	1
	BELLEVILLE	19	6	13	0	38
	CAHOKIA	1	5	0	2	8
	CASEYVILLE	0	1	0	0	1
	CENTREVIL	0	2	0	0	2
	COLLINSVIL	0	1	0	0	1
	DUPO	1	1	5	0	7
	EAST ST LO	0	7	0	2	9
	FAIRVIEW H	2	2	5	0	9
	MASCOUTA	1	1	2	5	9
	NEW ATHEN	1	0	0	0	1
	SWANSEA	2	1	0	0	3
	WASHINGTON	0	2	0	0	2
	TOTAL	27	29	26	9	91
TOTAL		41	71	33	13	158

Animals Left In Shelter on 09/30/18: 116