

**St. Clair County Animal Services
Minutes for Meeting
At the Courthouse – 6:00 P.M.
August 26th, 2019**

Members Present:

Robert Trentman, Chairman
Steve Gomric, Asst. Chairman
Lonnie Mosley
Scott Greenwald
Mike O'Donnell
John Waldron

Absent:

James Haywood

Others Present:

Cheri Weaver, Director, Animal Services
Julie Grady, Animal Services
Ashley Jett, St. Clair County Adoption Center
Robert Allen, St. Clair County Board Member
John West, St. Clair County Board Member
Herb Simmons, St. Clair County EMA
Susan Gruberman, St. Clair County Board Member

Call to Order

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

Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

Stand for the Pledge of Allegiance

The roll was called and a quorum declared present.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Mr. Gomric to approve the minutes of July 29th, 2019.
Second by Mr. Greenwald

Vote: Yes 6 No 0 Motion Carried.

Public Comment:

Sheila: I have some handouts for you guys and I have some questions. Are you already considering the budget for next year? If so, is it going to stay the same as this year, or you looking at another cut?

Cheri replied: Not yet, we haven't started the budget yet.

Sheila replied: Is it on the calendar year or fiscal year?

Cheri replied: The end of the year, they start September-October.

Sheila replied: Also, the owner (and her mother) of Furchild stopped by today when we were taking pictures. They were telling us about beds like kuranda beds that they sell in their store that they can get at cost for about a third of the cost. They're going to donate one, if we can test drive it to see if it's as sturdy. If it works out, we can finish up the rest of the kennels easily. Finally, I'm going to hand these out. We had a coalition meeting two weeks ago. There were a couple different things we talked about. I know Belleville has an ACO but I wasn't aware that all the towns in the county have ACOs so to say. I'm going to find out who those people are and we're going to invite them to be a part of the coalition and hopefully they'll be stake holders in all of these processes and we can get feedback from what's going on in the field as far as what they're seeing daily. The Advocates are having another fundraiser at the end of September. We're doing "dogs and cats of a different color" on September 27th at Copper Fire. We're having a kick of party if you guys will all come. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres. Hopefully you'll all come. And there was also one other thing we discussed. That was piloting as is adoptions for cats on the AC side. It was something to see if we can start moving more animals out.

Cheri replied: We do have something in the works. It is going to be for the adult cats on the ac side. So we're going to do a low profile, see how it works and go from there.

Sheila replied: There was also a discussion about monthly animal transports up to Chicago and hopefully that will help start moving some more of the animals out and might start in September. Lastly, Furchild on the second Saturday of the month holds pet related events in O'Fallon. It would be a good opportunity to get animals, rescue and information out there to the public. Their first one was last month and it was very well received.

Mr. Trentman replied: Where is that?

Sheila replied: O'fallon, the next block down from Peel.

Gillian replied: First Street.

Katie Stahl: Hi. First time at this meeting. We're new to the area. We talked to the police and I didn't get a lot of detail about what happens on the AC side of this. What is the protocol on checking on pets in inclement weather considering that we now have a law with actual teeth in the state for dogs that are left outside? I drive in early before you guys are open and I end up calling Gateway quite a bit when I see animals I'm constantly worried about. I guess it's kind of a double arrowed question, is there any form of patrol when your ACOs go out and drive around to see if there's dogs out or in hot spot areas where you know there's problems. What's the proactive stuff you do?

Cheri replied: We go out when someone calls us and says there's a problem. If it's a humane care and you can give us the address. It's helpful, so we can look them up in our system to see if they have any pets or if they are registered. If it's before hours, you can always leave a voicemail with your name and number and we'll call you back. If you can't take the call, if you can give us a brief detail of what's going on and the address where the dogs are at.

Katie replied: So do you guys have a policy that the animal control officer goes out and it is cold, what do you do?

Cheri replied: There's not a regulated temperature where they have to bring their animals in. We go out and evaluate. Every situation is different. If they have adequate shelter, water that is not frozen and you can tell that they're being fed. We can't make them take them inside.

Katie replied: If you determine its cold, you can take them.

Cheri replied: If it's an emergency, the animal is in dire need. But I'm saying if the animal is not in dire need and they have everything they have. We still make contact with the owners. We may suggest, depending on what direction what the house is sitting, put some straw inside, put a flap on the cover. Things like that.

Katie replied: How is dire need determined?

Cheri replied: If we don't believe the dog is going to survive 24 hours, we take it.

Katie replied: Thank you. Another thing on a completely different note: There's a group in Chicago called Pets for U.S. heroes. I know them through the shelter we formerly volunteered with while we were up there. My old shelter partnered with this group and given the amount of veterans and active duty that live here, I was interested to see if this could be something that would help here. The point of the organization is to network

veterans and first responders to the shelter. In exchange, this organization will cover certain costs and provide training with local trainers to help make sure the adoptions are successful. I talked to this lady for the first time and she went over all of this with me. The organization she runs is very efficient. She gets a lot of grant money. She was really excited to hear that I would be interested in helping this program down here. Paula is the lady who owns it. She indicated that she's open to helping. I'm trying to find a few organizations who are interested in partnering with them. She indicated she could be flexible with the program. Heartworm is a problem here. She has expressed interest in being flexible instead of giving incentive money to veterans for adoptions she'd be willing to cover the cost of slow kill heartworm treatment for the dogs for adoption. So let's say there's a veteran he goes through the process, gets his background check to ascertain he's a suitable adopter, you also can't be active duty. But there are a few requirements, For example: some of the partner organizations will waive the adoption fee because it's getting animals through. In exchange, providing food, training and adoption assimilation is what the organization is providing to the adopter. Not a cookie cutter approach but I would like to talk to someone who works in the adoption center here to see if this would help and we can make it work. If this is something that would actually help, this seems like one of the best places to do it.

Mr. Trentman replied: Ok, why don't you put all of that down on paper? That's a lot of info. And then you can get with Ashley and she'll take it from there.

Animal Control Reports:

Cheri: The save rate was 91 % (Corrected 86%). We're all looking forward to the adopt-a-thon on September 28th. But I do want to turn it over to Ashley. She is dying to tell everyone about the slumber party.

Ashley: Recap of the slumber party: It was awesome. Lots of emotion, lots of feels. Bob was part of this, so he understands what we all went through and how much of an emotional train wreck I was that day. We raised, at the shelter through the mighty cause donation for St. Clair County's adoption center, \$14,282. There will be more money. From tee-shirt sales, there is a donation from Purina that will also be dispersed to the 15 organizations and whatever is left in that money because it was put in the general fund and then whoever else donated to the general fund that will be dispersed accordingly too. We'll be closer to the \$16,000 range by the time it's done. Thank you, Mark, for allowing us to be a part of that donation and do our first fundraising event because that was awesome. Thank you to everyone who donated. I know a lot people in here donated, so thank you to all of you. It was cool. It was a way to put yourself in that kennel with that

dog for 24 hours. I'm there every day, but it's totally different when you're behind that kennel door. We look forward to being able to do this again next year.

Adopt-a-thon is September 28th. We're preparing for that. We've got a couple of people in the works for food trucks. Pirtle's ice cream is going to be there. Right now I have about 12 different vendors, kind of like we did last year. So it will be fun. We'll not have as many dogs as last year, but we will have about 20 dogs depending on if we have a litter of puppies or something like that. Adult cats and kittens. We're really looking forward to that.

Mr. Waldron replied: Location?

Ashley replied: At the adoption center. This is the second year we'll be doing it at the adoption center. It works out really well. The dogs have their own kennels, it's air conditioned. And when a dog is adopted and we just don't walk them anymore. And it is just so much easier. Silver creek was fun, it's just hot and it's hard to have all those animals out there. Transporting there and back. By the time we get there, we're all worn out. We're going to have all different kinds of vendors there, not necessarily just animal related. Whoever wants to be there can be there. It will be fun.

Katie replied: Do you have it in your budget to distribute flyers?

Ashley replied: We have flyers that we print out on our own. They're being dispersed and it's all over facebook already. It's on the adoption center page if you want to share it from there. I have paper copies. We send them out to the board.

Katie replied: I would be happy to go around to businesses and hang them.

Ashley replied: I didn't have time to do it last year, but that would be helpful. I planned to go to down town Belleville on Main St. and hand them out. But yes, if you want to help with that I would appreciate it.

Mr. Trentman: I also attended the sleepover. And it was a good experience. Ashley worked her tail off down there to get dogs and cats out of there. She takes her work home with her. St. Clair County is lucky to have her working down there. We had a lot of people donate a lot of money and it was a good thing.

Ashley replied: Bob was out there on his phone streaming the whole time. He was dedicated. He was out there playing with dogs. He was calling everyone he could think of to get those last minute donations in. He was bound and determined to hit that \$5,000 mark and he did. He personally raised \$5,000 himself.

Sheila replied: Is there going to be a low cost spay and neuter clinic this fall.

Cheri replied: No.

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MOTION by Mr. Gomric to approve Cheri and Ashley's report
Second by Mr. Waldron

Vote: Yes 6 No 0 Motion Carried.

MOTION to adjourn by Mr. Gomric. Second by Mr. Greenwald . Motion carried.

Kennel Statistics Report

Intakes from 08/01/19 to 08/31/19

		CAT	DOG	KITTEN	PUPPY	TOTAL
CONFISCATE	OWNER D	0	2	0	0	2
	POLICE	0	1	2	0	3
	TOTAL	0	3	2	0	5
EUTH REQ	FIELD OW	0	1	0	0	1
	OTC OWN	2	8	0	0	10
	TOTAL	2	9	0	0	11
OWNER SUR	FIELD	0	3	0	0	3
	OTC	0	7	0	4	11
	TOTAL	0	10	0	4	14
RETURN	OTC	0	0	0	2	2
	TOTAL	0	0	0	2	2
STRAY	FIELD	2	22	0	1	25
	NIGHT	0	0	4	0	4
	OTC	31	38	23	8	100
	TOTAL	33	60	27	9	129
TOTAL		35	82	29	15	161

Kennel Statistics Report

Outcomes from 08/01/19 to 08/31/19

		CAT	DOG	KITTEN	PUPPY	TOTAL
ADOPTION		0	1	0	0	1
	REFERAL	0	3	1	1	5
	WALKIN	3	3	5	3	14
	WEB	0	3	0	0	3
	TOTAL	3	10	6	4	23
DIED	IN KENNEL	1	0	0	0	1
	TOTAL	1	0	0	0	1
EUTH	BEHAV OBSV	0	4	0	0	4
	MEDICAL	4	10	1	0	15
	TOTAL	4	14	1	0	19
RELOCATE		1	13	7	4	25
	TOTAL	1	13	7	4	25
RTO	MICROCHIP	1	10	0	1	12
	PHONE	0	2	0	0	2
	TAG ID	0	1	0	0	1
	WALKIN	0	8	0	1	9
	TOTAL	1	21	0	2	24
TRANSFER		35	32	13	3	83
	TOTAL	35	32	13	3	83
TOTAL		45	90	27	13	175

Kennel Statistics Report

Intakes from 08/01/19 to 08/31/19

		CAT	DOG	KITTEN	PUPPY	TOTAL
CONFISCATE	BELLEVILLE	0	1	0	0	1
	CAHOKIA	0	1	0	0	1
	E CARONDE	0	1	0	0	1
	SMITHTON	0	0	2	0	2
	TOTAL	0	3	2	0	5
EUTH REQ	BELLEVILLE	2	2	0	0	4
	CASEYVILLE	0	1	0	0	1
	DUPO	0	1	0	0	1
	EAST ST LO	0	1	0	0	1
	FAIRVIEW H	0	1	0	0	1
	MASCOUTA	0	1	0	0	1
	MILLSTADT	0	1	0	0	1
	SMITHTON	0	1	0	0	1
	TOTAL	2	9	0	0	11
OWNER SUR	BELLEVILLE	0	5	0	3	8
	CAHOKIA	0	1	0	0	1
	CASEYVILLE	0	1	0	0	1
	EAST ST LO	0	2	0	0	2
	MARISSA	0	0	0	1	1
	MASCOUTA	0	1	0	0	1
	TOTAL	0	10	0	4	14
RETURN	BELLEVILLE	0	0	0	2	2
	TOTAL	0	0	0	2	2
STRAY	BELLEVILLE	9	27	19	2	57
	CAHOKIA	0	4	0	1	5
	CASEYVILLE	4	5	0	2	11
	CENTREVIL	0	3	0	0	3
	DUPO	5	0	0	0	5
	EAST ST LO	1	11	3	1	16

		CAT	DOG	KITTEN	PUPPY	TOTAL
STRAY	FAIRVIEW H	6	4	0	0	10
	FREEBURG	0	1	0	0	1
	MARISSA	2	1	0	0	3
	MILLSTADT	0	0	2	0	2
	O FALLON	0	2	3	0	5
	SHILOH	5	1	0	0	6
	SMITHTON	1	0	0	0	1
	ST LIBORY	0	1	0	0	1
	SWANSEA	0	0	0	3	3
	TOTAL	33	60	27	9	129
TOTAL		35	82	29	15	161

Kennel Statistics Report
Outcomes from 08/01/19 to 08/31/19

		CAT	DOG	KITTEN	PUPPY	TOTAL
ADOPTION	BELLEVILLE	0	8	1	1	10
	CAHOKIA	0	0		1	1
	CENTREVIL	0	0	0	1	1
	COLLINSVIL	0	0	1	0	1
	EAST ST LO	0	0	0	1	1
	FAIRVIEW H	2	1	3	0	6
	SMITHTON	1	1	1	0	3
	TOTAL	3	10	6	4	23
DIED	FAIRVIEW H	1	0	0	0	1
	TOTAL	1	0	0	0	1
EUTH	BELLEVILLE	4	2	0	0	6
	CAHOKIA	0	2	0	0	2
	CASEYVILLE	0	1	0	0	1
	CENTREVIL	0	1	0	0	1
	DUPO	0	1	0	0	1
	E CARONDE	0	1	0	0	1
	EAST ST LO	0	2	0	0	2
	FAIRVIEW H	0	1	0	0	1
	MASCOUTA	0	1	0	0	1
	MILLSTADT	0	1	0	0	1
	O FALLON	0	0	1	0	1
	SMITHTON	0	1	0	0	1
	TOTAL	4	14	1	0	19
RELOCATE	BELLEVILLE	1	8	5	2	16
	CASEYVILLE	0	1	0	1	2
	EAST ST LO	0	2	0	0	2
	FAIRVIEW H	0	1	0	0	1
	O FALLON	0	1	1	0	2

		CAT	DOG	KITTEN	PUPPY	TOTAL
RELOCATE	SMITHTON	0	0	1	0	1
	SWANSEA	0	0	0	1	1
	TOTAL	1	13	7	4	25
RTO	BELLEVILLE	1	12	0	1	14
	CAHOKIA	0	1	0	0	1
	CENTREVIL	0	1	0	0	1
	EAST ST LO	0	2	0	0	2
	FAIRVIEW H	0	2	0	0	2
	FREEBURG	0	1	0	0	1
	MARISSA	0	1	0	0	1
	SHILOH	0	1	0	0	1
	SWANSEA	0	0	0	1	1
	TOTAL	1	21	0	2	24
TRANSFER		0	1	0	0	1
	BELLEVILLE	15	7	10	1	33
	CAHOKIA	1	7	0	0	8
	CASEYVILLE	1	2	0	0	3
	CENTREVIL	0	1	0	0	1
	DUPO	5	3	0	0	8
	EAST ST LO	1	5	3	1	10
	FAIRMONT C	0	1	0	0	1
	FAIRVIEW H	1	1	0	0	2
	FREEBURG	0	1	0	0	1
	MARISSA	2	0	0	1	3
	MASCOUTA	0	1	0	0	1
	MILLSTADT	1	0	0	0	1
	NEW ATHEN	0	1	0	0	1
	O FALLON	2	1	0	0	3
	SHILOH	5	0	0	0	5
	SMITHTON	1	0	0	0	1
	TOTAL	35	32	13	3	83
TOTAL		45	90	27	13	175

