

St. Clair County Animal Services

Minutes for Meeting

Conference Room: 6:00 P.M.

December 18th, 2023

Members Present:

Robert Trentman, Chairman
Scott Greenwald, Asst. Chairman
Lonnie Mosley
G.W. Scott, Jr.
Mike O'Donnell
Robert Wilhelm
Harry Hollingsworth

Others Present:

Ashley Jett, Animal Services Director
Robert Allen, County Board member
Roy Mosley, County Board member
Lexi Cortez, Belleville News Democrat
Mark Kern, County Board Chairman
Phil Henning, County Board member
Randy Pierce, Mascoutah Harold

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

Roll call and a quorum declared present.

Public Comment:

Mr. Trentman: Please keep your questions or comments to about 2 minutes and direct them towards this chair.

Mr. Trentman: Alright, there is none.

Approval of Minutes:

**MOTION: by Mr. Hollingsworth to approve the minutes of November 27th, 2023 meeting.
Second by Mr. Mosley.**

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Motion Carried.

Ashley Report

Mr. Trentman: Reports from Ashley, AC director.

Ashley: We are full, like always. We kind of dropped below the no kill status in the month of November just because our intakes were less than what our outcomes were so obviously, we are going to have a lower number. We had a couple of dogs that we had to move on with because they were not being so nice. We had a couple of them that we had to make a decision on. Our adoptions were up, we had 19 adoptions in the month of November which is pretty good. We have had a couple of them come back, but they are good dogs. Our adoption center is full, we have 10 dogs in the adoption center and 5 in quarantine right now and we have 10 cats/kittens in the adoption center. We are busy. We have 2-3 families coming in daily to look at what we have. It's Christmas time and people are ready to adopt. As far as Animal Control goes, we are still getting calls all the time about stray dogs, humane cares, abandonments, police assists. We are doing police assists like crazy. Our bite cases are up. Other than that, that's about it. It's the normal.

Mr. Trentman: How are our volunteers? Do we have any volunteers coming through.

Ashley: Yeah, its pretty good. We have a few. We have another one coming in for training and doing the walk through on Wednesday. So that will be nice and hopefully we can get a few more just by crossing paths with the Humane Society. Hopefully we can get a few more volunteers that would help in both places.

Mr. Trentman: Are we fully staffed?

Ashley: Yes. We are 100% staffed so we are good on that too. Lots of people to walk animals. Lots of people to care for the animals. Also, our weekends are completely staffed too. For once we have a full staff. It's nice.

Mr. Trentman: Harry, do you have a question?

Mr. Hollingsworth: How's the new facility? How's it working out?

Ashley: We are still in the very, very beginning stages of that. We just had our first meeting with the prospective building company who is designing the building. So, we are still waiting for, we just received a prospective line up of what to expect, with all our information in it. But then we are potentially waiting for the layout to kind of go from there. We kind of have a general idea of what to expect.

Mr. Greenwald: Will the building face the front or back of the property?

Mr. Kern: So, the company we are working with it's more than just building a building. It's building a building that is going to make it better for the animals and so they are going to place this on the property with a recommended way, I think its Animal Common Technology.

Ashley: It's called Animal Arts and they are out of Colorado.

Mr. Kern: This is going to be state of the art and so a lot of these things are going to be pushed out as they design the building.

Ashley: They are fear free based – so essentially what they do is make it to where it is 100% fear free, its compatible with all the animals, its compatible with the people too who are coming in to adopt and also the employees. So, she had a lot of good information that I would have never thought of too. It was nice to hear it from her standpoint and how they design their buildings and how they design their kennel areas and what they need as opposed to what we have now and how it can be better. It's interesting and I learned a lot from just meeting with her.

Mr. Kern: But beyond that we know that we have to get out of the current facility. It's in a flood plain, it floods so hopefully their recommendations will align with our budget with the next decision.

Mr. Wilhelm: Is the number of kennels going to be about the same?

Ashley: Yes. The only difference in the way we prospectively designed it, would be that all the animals will be in the same place. So, all the animals that will be on stray hold, when their 7 days is up, hopefully then they would be available for adoption so then we wouldn't necessarily have a separate holding facility for the animals that would be available for adoption as opposed to strays. So, they would all stay in the same general location. So, the same amount of kennels, just all in the same location.

Mr. Kern: So this is really the next step. No kill was the first step, so now this new progressive way of handling the animals, I think will be a real credit to the county.

Ashley: I'm just hoping that we can provide more community resources at the end of it. We can help people with affordable options for having animals and then hopefully our length of stay for housing animals that we currently have will go down. We can get them out of there faster and get them adopted faster and into homes.

Mr. Trentman: Are any of the organizations pulling from us? How has that been going for the last month or two?

Ashley: It has been drastically decreasing as the year goes on. We have only done 20 animal transfers out of the facility in the month of November. Which is really, really low.

Mr. Trentman: Who was that to?

Ashley: That was between the Belleville Area Humane Society and Gateway Pet Guardians.

Mr. Trentman: So 20. What's a good number for the month?

Ashley: Last year about this time, we had probably 80 and that's still a low number too just because of the time of the year, but generally over the summer we were transferring 100-120 animals out of the facility every month.

Mr. Trentman: Ok, so I need a motion to approve Ashley's report if no body has anything else.

MOTION: by Mr. Hollingsworth to approve Ashley's report. Second by Mr. Scott.

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Motion Carried.

Mr. Trentman: We have no ordinances or resolutions. We do not have anything else to come before this board. Anything else from any other county board member on this committee?

MOTION to adjourn by Mr. Wilhelm. Second by Mr. O'Donnell.

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Motion carried.



Kennel Statistics, Including Animals Left

Intakes from 12/1/2023 to 12/31/2023

	DOG	CAT	KITTEN	TOTAL
GRAND TOTAL	48	19	12	79
CONFISCATE	5	0	0	5
BELLEVILLE	3	0	0	3
CAHOKIA	1	0	0	1
EAST ST LOUIS	1	0	0	1
EUTH REQ	4	1	0	5
BELLEVILLE	0	1	0	1
CAHOKIA	2	0	0	2
LEBANON	1	0	0	1
O FALLON	1	0	0	1
OWNER SUR	4	1	8	13
FAIRVIEW HEIGHT	2	0	0	2
FREEBURG	0	0	8	8
MILLSTADT	2	0	0	2
O FALLON	0	1	0	1
RETURN	2	3	2	7
BELLEVILLE	0	1	0	1
FAIRVIEW HEIGHT	2	0	0	2
O FALLON	0	2	2	4
STRAY	33	14	2	49
BELLEVILLE	14	2	0	16
CAHOKIA	1	0	0	1
CASEYVILLE	4	3	0	7
COLLINSVILLE	1	0	0	1
E CARONDELET	2	0	2	4
EAST ST LOUIS	2	0	0	2
FAIRVIEW HEIGHT	2	7	0	9
FREEBURG	1	2	0	3
MARISSA	1	0	0	1

	DOG	CAT	KITTEN	TOTAL
MILLSTADT	2	0	0	2
O FALLON	2	0	0	2
SWANSEA	1	0	0	1



Kennel Statistics, Including Animals Left

Outcomes from 12/1/2023 to 12/31/2023

	DOG	PUPPY	CAT	KITTEN	Total
GRAND TOTAL	48	1	10	7	66
ADOPTION	10	1	0	2	13
BELLEVILLE	5	0	0	1	6
CASEYVILLE	1	0	0	0	1
E CARONDELET	1	0	0	0	1
EAST ST LOUIS	1	0	0	0	1
LEBANON	1	0	0	0	1
O FALLON	1	0	0	0	1
SHILOH	0	0	0	1	1
SWANSEA	0	1	0	0	1
EUTH	5	0	1	0	6
BELLEVILLE	0	0	1	0	1
CAHOKIA	2	0	0	0	2
EAST ST LOUIS	1	0	0	0	1
LEBANON	1	0	0	0	1
O FALLON	1	0	0	0	1
RELOCATE	7	0	3	5	15
BELLEVILLE	0	0	1	0	1
CASEYVILLE	2	0	0	0	2
E CARONDELET	0	0	0	1	1
EAST ST LOUIS	1	0	0	0	1
FAIRVIEW HEIGHT	2	0	0	0	2
FREEBURG	0	0	0	4	4
O FALLON	2	0	2	0	4
RTO	17	0	1	0	18
BELLEVILLE	9	0	0	0	9
FAIRVIEW HEIGHT	1	0	1	0	2
FREEBURG	1	0	0	0	1
LEBANON	3	0	0	0	3

	DOG	PUPPY	CAT	KITTEN	Total
MILLSTADT	2	0	0	0	2
SWANSEA	1	0	0	0	1
TRAN IN ST	9	0	5	0	14
BELLEVILLE	6	0	1	0	7
CAHOKIA	1	0	0	0	1
CASEYVILLE	0	0	1	0	1
EAST ST LOUIS	1	0	0	0	1
FAIRVIEW HEIGHT	0	0	2	0	2
FREEBURG	0	0	1	0	1
O FALLON	1	0	0	0	1

Animals Left In Shelter
on 12/31/23

DOG	PUPPY	CAT	KITTEN	Total
42	2	18	6	68