

St. Clair County Animal Services

Minutes for Meeting

Conference Room: 5:30 P.M.

July 31st, 2023

Members Present:

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

Others Present:

Ashley Jett, Animal Services Director
Sue Gruberman, County Board member
Lexi Cortez, Belleville News Democrat
Robert Allen, County Board member
CJ Barecivic, County Board member
Randy Pierce, The Tribune, The Mascoutah Harold,

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 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.

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: by Mr. Wilhelm to approve the minutes of June 26th, 2023 meeting. Second by Mr. Scott.

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Motion Carried.

Approval of Amended Meeting Schedule:

MOTION: by Mr. Wilhelm to approve the amended meeting date of September 25th, 2023. Second by Mr. Scott.

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Motion Carried.

Ashley Report

Mr. Trentman: Report from our AC director, Ashley Jett.

Ashley: Of course, not much different than normal. We are full. We did have a 95% save rate for this month, or last month. I'm sorry. We didn't have too many leave the building. As far as going home purposes, we only had 5 animals returned to owner. We did 12 adoptions for that month. As far as transferring to other rescue organizations, we only had 29 leave via rescue transfer. We are pretty low on the spectrum of leaving. Everything is really slow. Everybody, again everybody is feeling this. We are not the only ones.

Mr. Trentman: How is the air working. Good on that end of the building?

Ashley: Yes. It's just hot outside. Last week anyways. I think we have had 299 animals total since the end of June that have left and went to animal rescues. So rescue transferred out of the building, which is still drastically lower than what we would normally be at this point in time. Typically by mid year, I am closer to the 5-600 animal region. We are at half of that.

Mr. Trentman: So how many transfers are you at as of now.

Ashley: 299

Mr. Trentman: So 300, so you are at least 200 out.

Ashley: Yes, about 2-300 down from what we normally are.

Mr. Trentman: And we are full right.

Ashley: Every kennel is full. We are removing more animals from humane care situations, abandonment situations, condemning situations. We just had 5 brought in last week from a condemned house in Dupo that we had to find space for.

Mr. Trentman: What can people do to help? How is the volunteer program looking?

Ashley: Our volunteer program numbers are still pretty much the same as it normally is. We have been putting out a couple of volunteer bulletins just to see about people coming down but ultimately I think every rescue around here needs fosters to take animals. They cannot pull anymore than what they have capacity for at their shelter. So, we need large dog fosters.

Mr. Trentman: And we could use volunteers down at the shelter?

Ashley: Yes. We are trying to boost that program but it's just not taking off.

Mr. Trentman: If someone wanted to help out, what time would they need to be down there?

Ashley: Any time.

Mr. Trentman: Whenever, just show up?

Ashley: Yes. 8:30-5:00

Mr. Trentman: Just go down and grab you a dog.

Ashley: We just have a brief training session with you. Then we will get you a dog you can walk down the street, go across the street to the play yard, anything – spend some time with some cats. Anything would help benefit our staff. We are super short staffed again. I had a full staff and now I am short staffed again.

Mr. Trentman: So anyone who has time, go down there, spend an hour or two every other week just to walk a dog. You can actually get you a dog, walk across the street, shut the gate and turn it loose. Ashley, do you still have a bench over there to sit on?

Ashley: I have a bench and a swing. A patio swing, so you can sit over there and swing while you hang out with a dog.

Mr. Trentman: Throw a frisbee or play catch or whatever. Sounds like you are doing what you can do, right?

Ashley: We are trying to focus more on, trying to simplify our processes in the office too with potentially a new software program. We have been talking with IT about it and we are trying to see if we can make it work budget-wise for next year. The one that I really is a lot of money, and it probably won't be beneficial for us to have. It would be beneficial for the girls in the office – because it's essentially zero to no input time. It's just that I can't, with the amount of money that it costs. We are going to try to look at this other version of what we have and make it work. It will make it more simplified for everyone who works there.

Mr. Trentman: Maybe if we knew someone at the newspaper, BND, maybe they could do some local flashes for volunteers needed or something. If they called you, you could give them instructions, right?

Ashley: Yes.

Mr. Trentman: Like a little ad or something.

Ashley: I can call down and see.

Mr. Trentman: Lexi.

Lexi Cortez: I don't work in advertising.

Ashley: I can just call down there though, right. And see what they can do for us.

Mr. Trentman: Who would she call down there Lexi?

Lexi Cortez: Let me find a number for you.

Ashley: I can grab it from you before I leave. That way you are not put on the spot.

Mr. Trentman: When you figure it out, call them. Put a nice little local flash – volunteers needed and the times. Stuff like that, with an address...that would be great.

Ashley: We can do that. We can get something together to post.

Mr. Trentman: Thanks Lexi.

MOTION: by Mr. Mosley to approve Ashley's report

2nd by Mr. Greenwald.

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Motion Carried.

Mr. Trentman: We have no ordinances or resolutions. Any other business to come before this board or anything else from any other board member? Now is the time.

MOTION to adjourn by Mr. Greenwald.

2nd by Mr. Hollingsworth.

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Motion carried.



Kennel Statistics, Including Animals Left

Intakes from 7/1/2023 to 7/31/2023

	DOG	PUPPY	CAT	KITTEN	TOTAL
GRAND TOTAL	36	7	8	27	78
CONFISCATE	9	5	0	0	14
ALORTON	2	5	0	0	7
DUPO	7	0	0	0	7
EUTH REQ	7	0	2	0	9
BELLEVILLE	4	0	0	0	4
FAIRVIEW HEIGHT	0	0	1	0	1
LEBANON	1	0	1	0	2
NEW ATHENS	1	0	0	0	1
O FALLON	1	0	0	0	1
OWNER SUR	1	0	1	6	8
BELLEVILLE	1	0	0	6	7
SWANSEA	0	0	1	0	1
RETURN	2	0	0	0	2
LEBANON	2	0	0	0	2
STRAY	17	2	5	21	45
BELLEVILLE	8	2	4	12	26
CAHOKIA	2	0	0	0	2
CASEYVILLE	2	0	0	0	2
EAST ST LOUIS	1	0	0	0	1
FREEBURG	0	0	0	2	2
MASCOUTAH	0	0	0	2	2
NEW ATHENS	1	0	0	1	2
O FALLON	1	0	0	2	3
SMITHTON	0	0	1	2	3
SWANSEA	2	0	0	0	2



Kennel Statistics, Including Animals Left

Outcomes from 7/1/2023 to 7/31/2023

	DOG	PUPPY	CAT	KITTEN	Total
GRAND TOTAL	37	6	9	36	88
ADOPTION	6	0	0	10	16
BELLEVILLE	3	0	0	5	8
CASEYVILLE	0	0	0	2	2
DUPO	1	0	0	0	1
LEBANON	1	0	0	0	1
MASCOUTAH	0	0	0	2	2
O FALLON	0	0	0	1	1
WASHINGTON PARK	1	0	0	0	1
DIED	0	0	0	1	1
BELLEVILLE	0	0	0	1	1
EUTH	11	0	3	0	14
BELLEVILLE	6	0	1	0	7
CAHOKIA	1	0	0	0	1
EAST ST LOUIS	1	0	0	0	1
FAIRVIEW HEIGHT	0	0	1	0	1
LEBANON	1	0	1	0	2
NEW ATHENS	1	0	0	0	1
O FALLON	1	0	0	0	1
RELOCATE	7	1	0	6	14
BELLEVILLE	3	1	0	4	8
DUPO	1	0	0	0	1
EAST ST LOUIS	1	0	0	0	1
LEBANON	1	0	0	0	1
MASCOUTAH	0	0	0	2	2
NEW ATHENS	1	0	0	0	1
RTO	6	0	0	0	6
BELLEVILLE	3	0	0	0	3
DUPO	2	0	0	0	2

	DOG	PUPPY	CAT	KITTEN	Total
O FALLON	1	0	0	0	1
TRAN IN ST	5	0	6	19	30
BELLEVILLE	2	0	1	13	16
CASEYVILLE	1	0	0	0	1
EAST ST LOUIS	1	0	0	1	2
FREEBURG	0	0	3	2	5
MASCOUTAH	0	0	1	0	1
MILLSTADT	1	0	0	0	1
NEW ATHENS	0	0	0	1	1
O FALLON	0	0	0	2	2
SMITHTON	0	0	1	0	1
TRAN O ST	2	5	0	0	7
ALORTON	2	5	0	0	7

Animals Left In Shelter
on 07/31/23

DOG	PUPPY	CAT	KITTEN	Total
35	1	3	12	51