

St. Clair County Animal Services

Minutes for Meeting

Conference Room: 6:00 P.M.

November 27th, 2023

Members Present:

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

Others Present:

Ashley Jett, Animal Services Director
Phil Henning, County Board member
John Cores, County Board member
Robert Allen, County Board member
Lexi Cortez

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 October 30th, 2023 meeting.
Second by Mr. O'Donnell.**

Vote: Yes: 6 No: 0 Motion Carried.

Ashley Report

Mr. Trentman: Reports from our great, Ashley, AC director.

Ashley: We are starting to pick up a little bit more. We had a 90% save rate in October and that is only because we had more intakes, obviously than outcomes. That doesn't mean that we euthanized any more, but because of live outcomes. We only had 2 euthanasia, which were both requested owner relinquishments for age or medical or something of that nature. No shelter euthanasia for the month. We did have 12 reclaims which is much better than where we have been. We have been at 4 or 5 every month. We did 18 adoptions, which is huge. We also participated in a Bissell Pet Empty the Shelters event that we were doing this month, so a lot of them came from that. We have brought 23 animals into the adoption center, and we are close to that for November too. Our transfers for animals moving out of the shelter are still super low. We are at 26, which in my 17 years of working for Animal Services, I've never seen 26 – even when we first started with this transfer program. I don't know what's happening. Everyone is full, we are full. We are starting to see, like I said, with me having a full staff in the adoption center I can start moving more animals over there. So instead of one person caring for 10-15-20 animals by themselves, now I have two people who can do that. So, they are asking for more animals, so we are transferring more over there. They are now getting comfortable with the adoption process so I'm hoping we can move a lot more through there. We are still getting calls like crazy; abandonments, police assist, evictions, things like that so the economy is obviously not getting any better. As far as Gifts from the Heart. It was good. We had 20 animals there and we did 20 raffles and I think we ended up raffling 12 adoption certificates; we had some people not claim them or people who won 3 adoptions and didn't really want 3 certificates. Some of them decided that they were going to wait until the time was right and they were ready. They do not have an expiration on the certificates so they can use them whenever. We did find 10 of them homes and we still have a couple more this week. We are loaded with meet and greets for Tuesday and Wednesday, so tomorrow and Wednesday. Other than that, things are going pretty well. It's just getting them into the vet, getting them fixed, making sure that we have connections there to put them up for adoption.

Mr. Trentman: Are you still working with the humane society with spay and neuters? Are they still doing some or what's going on with that.

Ashley: A little bit. Not too many.

Mr. Trentman: Could be better?

Ashley: Yeah. Our restrictions just keep getting bigger and bigger. We used to be able to do any size poundage of animal and now we have a cap of 40 pounds, which nothing at Animal Control

is under 40 pounds. We just can't fit that in. We can do cats through there. So, they have been helping us with TNR. We have been doing trap-neuter-release for any feral cat that comes through the facility. I just posted about the microchip and the \$10.00 anytime, come get your animals chipped program again so we have had a pretty big influx with that for the last couple of weeks which is good.

Mr. Trentman: How are the volunteers?

Ashley: Ok. Pretty much the same ones that we have had before. With it being the holidays, I expect that to go down just a little bit, but it still should be ok. We still have our couple of regulars.

Mr. Trentman: Do we need more?

Ashley: Yes, we can still always use more. The foster program. We are starting a foster program so we will have that now. We actually have one of the girls in the adoption center, she took home a pregnant dog a couple weeks ago and she had puppies, so she is my guinea pig foster right now. I found out through the Department of Agriculture that we do not have to have a specific license to be able to have a foster program. We just have to have paperwork in line, and it's already connected to the license that we have for the facility. We also have done low-cost vaccine clinics. We have done two of them already in the month of November and we have another one on Wednesday. We have done 54 animals so far and I have another 24 coming through on Wednesday. My plan is to have at least one of those once a month. We work with the Petco Love Foundation and Animal Advocates. They donate the distemper booster, so we made it a package where they can come in for a free distemper and then they can get rabies, a microchip, and the county registration for \$35.00 which is way cheaper than you can normally get. And it includes your tag, you don't have to send anything in, and the microchip is \$10.00, and we register everything for you. It's been working out really well. The first time we didn't have a whole lot of people come through, but the 2nd one and this last one we are completely booked up. It should start picking up as long as I can do them once a month. We will fill up. A full staff is wonderful. We have a full staff and I even have part time people coming through. The part-time people come in whenever they can and it's just so beneficial to the animals and to us and they love it, so it works out well.

Mr. Trentman: Every time I'm on 11th Street, I see people out walking dogs. Every single time and not just one, like two or three people walking dogs.

Ashley: We generally have 3-4 people walking dogs every day. It works out well.

Mr. Trentman: I don't think sometimes that we realize how hard the job is down there at Animal Control. You've got a building full of animals and you are just trying to move them, just month after month. Ashley does a great job down there and we are lucky to have her.

Ashley: The animals are not our biggest issue right now, it's the people who are calling. I mean we have multiple, multiple, multiple calls and we try to explain ourselves the best we can, but people just – I mean I'm sure I would be the same way if I wanted something done or I was having an issue with nothing getting resolved, I would be frustrated too. Especially after the long holiday weekend, today was really crazy, but we are doing well. I think.

Mr. Trentman: Trucking along, right?

Ashley: Yeah. We are doing the best we can.

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

Vote: Yes: 6 No: 0 Motion Carried.

Mr. Trentman: We have no ordinances or resolutions. We need to review and approve the 2024 meeting schedule. Did everybody get a chance to look at it? Is everyone ok with it?

MOTION to approve the 2024 meeting schedule by Mr. Scott. Second by Mr. Greenwald.

Vote: Yes: 6 No: 0 Motion carried.

Mr. Trentman: We also need to review and approve the 2024 Veterinarian contract for Services. There are no changes and everything stays the same from 2023.

MOTION to approve the 2024 Veterinarian Contract for Services by Mr. O'Donnell. Second by Mr. Greenwald.

Vote: Yes: 6 No: 0 Motion carried.

Mr. Trentman: Any other business to come before this board or any other board member on this committee.

MOTION to adjourn by Mr. Greenwald. Second by Mr. Mosley.

Vote: Yes: 6 No: 0 Motion carried.



Kennel Statistics, Including Animals Left

Intakes from 11/1/2023 to 11/30/2023

	DOG	PUPPY	CAT	KITTEN	TOTAL
GRAND TOTAL	37	6	8	6	57
CONFISCATE	7	0	1	0	8
BELLEVILLE	1	0	1	0	2
E CARONDELET	3	0	0	0	3
LEBANON	3	0	0	0	3
EUTH REQ	6	0	1	0	7
BELLEVILLE	3	0	1	0	4
FAIRVIEW HEIGHT	1	0	0	0	1
O FALLON	1	0	0	0	1
SWANSEA	1	0	0	0	1
OWNER SUR	3	4	1	2	10
(no jurisdiction)	0	4	0	0	4
BELLEVILLE	3	0	0	2	5
SHILOH	0	0	1	0	1
RETURN	2	0	0	0	2
NEW ATHENS	2	0	0	0	2
STRAY	19	2	5	4	30
BELLEVILLE	11	0	3	3	17
CAHOKIA	2	0	0	0	2
EAST ST LOUIS	1	0	0	0	1
FAIRVIEW HEIGHT	2	0	1	0	3
FREEBURG	0	0	1	0	1
MARISSA	2	0	0	0	2
O FALLON	1	0	0	1	2
SWANSEA	0	2	0	0	2



Kennel Statistics, Including Animals Left

Outcomes from 11/1/2023 to 11/30/2023

	DOG	PUPPY	CAT	KITTEN	Total
GRAND TOTAL	38	6	11	20	75
ADOPTION	7	2	1	9	19
BELLEVILLE	2	0	1	8	11
EAST ST LOUIS	1	0	0	0	1
LENZBURG	0	2	0	0	2
MARISSA	1	0	0	0	1
MASCOUTAH	1	0	0	0	1
O FALLON	1	0	0	1	2
SWANSEA	1	0	0	0	1
DIED	0	0	1	0	1
MASCOUTAH	0	0	1	0	1
EUTH	11	0	1	0	12
BELLEVILLE	4	0	1	0	5
FAIRVIEW HEIGHT	2	0	0	0	2
MASCOUTAH	1	0	0	0	1
O FALLON	1	0	0	0	1
SWANSEA	2	0	0	0	2
WASHINGTON PARK	1	0	0	0	1
RELOCATE	12	4	0	5	21
(no jurisdiction)	0	2	0	0	2
BELLEVILLE	6	0	0	4	10
E CARONDELET	1	0	0	0	1
EAST ST LOUIS	1	0	0	0	1
FAIRVIEW HEIGHT	1	0	0	0	1
LEBANON	1	0	0	0	1
LENZBURG	0	1	0	0	1
MARISSA	1	0	0	0	1
MASCOUTAH	0	0	0	1	1
NEW ATHENS	1	0	0	0	1

	DOG	PUPPY	CAT	KITTEN	Total
SWANSEA	0	1	0	0	1
RTO	2	0	0	0	2
BELLEVILLE	1	0	0	0	1
DUPO	1	0	0	0	1
TRAN IN ST	6	0	8	6	20
BELLEVILLE	1	0	4	5	10
CAHOKIA	1	0	0	0	1
DUPO	2	0	0	0	2
EAST ST LOUIS	1	0	0	0	1
FAIRVIEW HEIGHT	0	0	1	0	1
FREEBURG	0	0	2	0	2
O FALLON	0	0	0	1	1
SHILOH	1	0	1	0	2

Animals Left In Shelter
on 11/30/23

DOG	PUPPY	CAT	KITTEN	Total
46	3	9	2	60