St. Clair County Animal Services

Minutes for Meeting

Conference Room: 6:00 P.M.

October 26th, 2026

Members Present:	Robert Trentman, Chairman
	Scott Greenwald, Asst. Chairman
	Mike O'Donnell
	Lonnie Mosley
	G.W. Scott, Jr.
	Robert Wilhelm
	Harry Hollinsworth - EXCUSED
Others Present:	_____

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.

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: by Mr. Greenwald to approve the minutes from the September 26th, 2026 meeting. Second by Mr. Scott.

Vote: Yes: 6 No: 0 Motion Carried.

Director's Report

Mr. Trentman: Ashley, you report. Director of St. Clair County Animal Services

Ashley: For the month of July, August, September and October have all been kind of a blur with the amount of animals that we've had to intake to the facility with all of the hoarding cases. I don't have a live release rate calculated for September, probably not going to do one for

October either, just because it has been- these hoarding cases are just, they're detrimental to all of us. I don't think it's fair for us to count that against us with the amount of intakes, and the time it takes for them to leave. If they intake in September and outcome in October, it's not counting towards September's totals, and if we have to euthanize anybody then it's counting against owner requested euthanasia and that goes towards our numbers as well and I just don't feel like it's fair. I have talked to the chairman about it, and I think that he is kind at the same standpoint as we are. This last one was pretty hard, so that's really going to affect what we do and what happens. We just had a very large scale hoarding case where the majority of them all broke with Parvo. We had to shut down our kennels, humanly euthanize a lot of them, which was not well. That's kind of the reality we are facing when it comes to these hoarding cases, the rest of them have been easy opposed to this one, emotionally- I guess. So, I don't have a live release rate, but as you can see from our intake numbers from September, we're at 138 animals got brought in. 54 of them being owner surrenders, meaning that's how many we've essentially taken from hoarding cases in the month of September. 39 strays coming in, we did 29 transfers to the adoption center, 24 adoptions in the month of September, 9 return to owners, and 10 transfers to other rescue organizations. Our breakdown for rescue transfers is 1 dog to Gateway Pet Guardians, 9 to Partners for Pets, that included 1 dog, 6 cats, and 2 kittens for a total of 10. We handled 43 bite cases in the month pf September. We're about 54 today for the month of October, so we're getting back to our normal but with the holidays coming up, I expect an influx on our numbers too. What else do we have? Our building is almost done. I was just out there today. IT has been there, everything is good with that. A few minor construction things that need to be completed, patching up some things. The painters are coming back to do some patchwork and fix up some of the painting. We just need- the epoxy floors are finished. They were finished as of- today officially. So, we just have some base that needs to go in. Ater that it's just kind of buttoning up some finalizing things. We've got the cleaners coming in at the beginning of next week to come to a deep clean and start from there. Then we're hoping to start moving things the 2nd week of November and have a ribbon cutting the 3rd week, right before Thanksgiving. Then be in the building before the Thanksgiving holiday. That is our hope. I see in our foreseeable future, the light is there now. I'm not as worried as I was before about that being a reality, I think we're good when it comes to it. I am just ready to get out of the old building. We're all ready.

Mr. Trentman: Dawn, do you have anything?

Dawn: Nope, chiming in with what she is saying about the hoarding cases and such, that was a lot. It was very detrimental for everybody going into that and I am grateful that people were there to help in that situation and close that down to where nothing can go on that residence. The house is condemned, that way that disease cannot spread. That way someone cant get in there and flip it and something else happens. So, super grateful that case is signed, sealed and delivered. We've had quite a few adoptions in there, a lot of traffic. We we're having some issues with PetFinder and some of the links that kind of create that other source that people find us with, but we figured that out. It was like for a week, I said, "something seems off", and she said "something seems off", I said "that's weird", and we looked into it and figured it out.

Ashley: If there's puppies sit there longer for a week, we know there's a problem.

Dawn: If there's a weekend that I don't get an application for a puppy over a weekend, from Thursday to Monday. That's weird, somethings not working with software. But, we do have

some long-timers going into foster to adopt trial tomorrow. Oh and to get emotional- she's been there since last September. For no reason- but just there.

Ashley: My girl.

Dawn: My slumber pawty girl. So we've had some long timers get some chances and things like that. We've had some up and some really low lows but had our ups and we can't wait to get into the new building.

Mr. Trentman: We did some work on S 11th, and I will say this, almost at any given time there's 2,3,4 people walking dogs just, that's a good thing. Getting them out of their cages, there's someone out there every day walking a dog, there or over the street. That's a good thing.

Dawn: Giving us an advantage with this weather.

Ashley: We're finally almost fully staffed again to the point where we can get all of our cleaning done in the morning and have the entire afternoon to spend with the dogs and the cats, there's always somebody available to go and hangout with cats too. So, it's good. If we get a couple more part timers in there, I think itll be good.

Mr. Trentan: Okay.

MOTION: **by Mr. Wilhelm to approve Ashley's report. Second by Mr. O'Donnell.**

Vote: Yes: 6 No: 0 Motion Carried.

Mr. Trentman: and you guys got a chance to look at the meeting schedules for 2027 schedule.

MOTION: **by Mr. Wilhelm to approve the 2027 Meeting Schedule. Second by Mr. O'Donnell.**

Vote: Yes: 6 No: 0 Motion Carried.

Mr. Trentman: Anything else?

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

Vote: Yes: 6 No: 0 Motion carried.