

John Manning District One

Cecil L Pendergrass District Two

Larry Kiker District Three

Brian Hamman District Four

Frank Mann District Five

Roger Desjarlais County Manager

Richard Wm. Wesch County Attorney

Donna Marie Collins Hearing Examiner

Animal Services Advisory Board Meeting March 28, 2016 Minutes

Present: Board Members, Charlene Campbell, Larry Scott, William Townsend, Jennifer Galloway, Theresa Ink; Lee County Domestic Animal Services' staff, Mack Young, Abby Soto, Karen Fordiani, Ria Brown, Brandon Scribner, Andrea Rothwell; Ashley Fesperman, Lee County Attorney's Office

Absent: Heather Hawk, Randy Hodges

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 p.m. by Chairman Charlene Campbell.

Minutes from the January 25, 2016 meeting were approved as amended.

Charlene Campbell noted that Heather Hawk has missed three meetings. Ashley Fesperman said she would take care of determining the process for removal from the board. She will also review the number of other absences.

Ashley Fesperman reviewed Robert's Rules of Order.

Charlene Campbell inquired about the status of the vacant veterinarian position. Mack Young reported that Dr. Christopher Taylor has been hired and has already started.

Brandon Scribner gave a follow-up report on the status of the county's IT department mapping the locations of various activities including feral cats. The project is still in progress as there are many other projects also on their agenda. Animal Services is still collecting the data. Jennifer Galloway mentioned that FGCU students are willing to help collect data. Brandon Scribner also reported that there are issues with taking the data from Animal Services' software program, Chameleon, without the company's permission. To have Chameleon pull the data could cost approximately \$50,000.

The meeting was open to public comment. Concern was expressed regarding a need to expand the TNR volunteer base to prevent future problems. More info on targeted TNR was requested. The process of ear-tipping feral cats was discussed. Comments were made suggesting that a statistician would be need to process all the TNR data but the process should not be made too complicated and that the county should work with small groups where community help was offered. The question was raised as to where all the cats are at Animal Services' shelter.

As in previous meetings, Andrea Rothwell reiterated that the clinic's surgery schedule cannot be expanded due to the veterinarians' schedules and their obligations to provide care and sterilizations for the shelter population and pet owners who receive public assistance. The shelter is now taking in owner-surrendered pets when possible and is working extensively with rescues to transfer cats. Brandon pointed out in reply to the request for TNR data that the county has a statistician which would be needed to process all the data that could be collected.

Theresa Ink and Jennifer Galloway stated that their clinics, PAWS Lee County and the Gulf Coast Humane Society, will be offering TNR.

Charlene Campbell suggested people come to Animal Services to get vouchers to take to participating veterinarians. She also added that affordable spay/neuter and TNR should be board goals.

The next meeting will be held May 23, 2016 and subsequent meetings will be held the fourth Monday of every other month at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.