

ANIMAL CONTROL COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 20, 2018

**MEMBERS**

Valerie Pena  
Tom Rea  
Nancy Riggert  
Rebecca Warren

**STAFF**

Jacquelyn Moore  
Lisa Ritchel  
Virgil Sauder  
Adam Wason

**PUBLIC**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Valerie moved to approve the December 19, 2017 minutes. Nancy seconded. Motion Passes. 3-0-1, with Tom abstaining.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Jacquelyn Moore, attorney for the commission, was present and explained that she had asked Virgil not to proceed with the habitual offender status for Mr. Tenner because the prosecutor's office has filed 3 A Misdemeanor charges for animal cruelty for the three animals taken from Mr. Tenner. The initial hearing is set for March 28. The three dogs, two males and a female, were in bad physical shape. There were originally 4 dogs, but that day they were told that Mr. Tenner's girlfriend owned and had taken the 4<sup>th</sup> dog. According to the state statute under which the dogs were taken, since Mr. Tenner did not submit funds or a bond sufficient to cover the cost of the care of the animals for 30 days within 10 days of the animals being taken, he cannot determine or affect their disposition. Jackie explained that at this time the animals can stay in the shelter, go into a foster home, but can't be adopted until the court has ruled. Virgil then explained that Mr. Tenner has a history of rabies violations, at large violations and neglect going back to 2010. Currently the dogs are gaining weight and are in much better shape. The female has been spayed and her mammary tumor was removed and was benign.

Virgil introduced Tom Rea as a new official member of the commission and reported that Vicky Myers decided not to renew.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Virgil reported that he is waiting on a meeting time to start the fine-tuning of the ordinances. He is also looking into adding language similar to Marion County for dogs outside in cold temperatures. A first step will be to better define, "shelter." Valerie explained that in a recent county case, a "thicket" of trees was used as a shelter.

**ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL REPORT – Virgil Sauder**

i. Shelter Statistics

Virgil did not bring stats from January, but did send out the stats from the end of last year. It was a great year, even with the construction project. For future stats, he is looking at breaking down intake based on age and plotting intake of litters on a map to look for "hot spots."

ii. Updates

Virgil reported that the shelter has been closed for two days to move the dogs and cats into the new building. It will also be closed for two more days for staff to decipher the flow of the new space. Currently the dogs are very quiet in their new kennels! He hopes this continues. April is

the current completion date for the renovations, so the open house could happen at the beginning of May. Virgil also reported that roof leaks and mold were discovered in the adoption center. The hazardous mold was remediated and the adoption center will need to be reroofed.

**MCHA UPDATE – Rebecca Warren**

i. General updates

Rebecca reported that the MCHA is adding another veterinarian and is expanding clinic hours. The clinic is now fully open to the public, both subsidized and non-subsidized, with 2 tiers of pricing. Anesthesia and sedation equipment were ordered with the help of a \$3500 grant. This will allow them to do more advanced procedures. The total cost will be \$6000-6500 to implement. In addition to the grant there have been some donations and the rest will be paid from the supply budget. The pantry is still doing between 1500-2000 lbs. a month. The surplus food is stored in a nearby storage unit. With a grant from the community foundation they have improved their equipment and implemented full service grooming. Standard grooming fees apply, so this should be a revenue generator. The community cat coordinator's role is expanding and is now called "gap services coordinator." One of the new services is emergency housing. They are formalizing the process and have taken in a few dogs: a couple of dogs from an owner experiencing homelessness and a couple of dogs from an owner that was recuperating from a surgery. Kava, the GSC, will also be overseeing the mobile clinics and doing outreach in the community. She most recently took free parvo vaccination letters to the Walnut Street Pike Apartments where parvo is prevalent. The clinic is at space capacity, but the MCHA continues to do everything they can to help those in need. Rebecca has learned that if the MCHA says no to someone in need, they will go nowhere else. Last month, 80% of the clients utilized donated medications because they could not afford them.

The MCHA is working out of their temporary office in the shelter. Tails of the Town is coming up on April 21, and most recently they did 43 visits during Send a Snuggle. The MCHA lost the fundraising challenge, so Rebecca will take a pie in the face from her board of directors. And, finally, Goat Yoga continues to be very popular.

ii. Update on Benji Fund use

Rebecca summarized the Benji Fund and presented a handout to the commission that outlined the budget and expenses.

Valerie moved for the renewal of the Benji Fund. Nancy seconded. Motion passes. 3-0-1, with Rebecca abstaining.

**AMC UPDATE – Virgil Sauder, Valerie Pena**

Valerie reported that the AMC had a good meeting, but there are a few livestock issues that will need to be addressed in the ordinances. Virgil reported that the AMC is short one person and is losing the veterinarian. Virgil also reported on the public comment period with the Makarchuks. They were upset with a decision the commission made.

**No public comment.**

**The meeting adjourned at 6:23pm.**