

Animal Control Advisory Board Minutes

2015 4th Qtr. Meeting

Date: Dec 17th 2015
Location: City Hall / City Council Chambers
Time: 6:00 PM

The 2015 4th Qtr Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

ROLLCALL

Attending:

Royce Williams	MCPD – Chair
Alijah Hunter	Animal Control
Chris Schwanke	City Council
Karen Edwards	Michiana Humane Society

Absent:

Rex Bailey	Veterinarian (MC Animal Hospital)
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The determination of a quorum was made.

Minutes of the last Animal Board meeting - None (ALCO didn't record) (2015 3rd Qtr).

Urban Chickens topic was discussed

New Business:

Michiana Humane Society requests to be added back on to the ordinance to receive funds for their support of Michigan City Animal Control, it was determined that we would need to identify what changes (if any) would be made to either the MOU and/or Ordinance to achieve the update.

According to Councilman Schwanke, he spoke with the City Attorney and she advised nothing would need to be done by this body or the City Council since there's already an MOU in place.

Royce Williams suggested that the current money disbursement be arranged in the following manner:

Michiana Humane Society – 33%

Fried's Cat Shelter – 33% (ICS can partner with Fried's)

LaPorte County Animal Shelter – 33%

Royce Williams points out that the required documentation needed to receive funds have been received from Fried's and LCSAS, but not ICS which isn't the first time.

Julie Sosa, MCAC Kennel Volunteer submitted a detailed letter and suggested several changes/purchased/upgrades:

1. **Change the transport formula** to everyday to both locations if room is available. Dogs with no chip/ID can be transported immediately, dogs that have been identified stay for 3 days prior to transport – Approved.
2. **Kennel Beds** – Approved.
3. **Kennel Repairs** / outside kennel system old and falling apart – Repairs Approved.
4. **New Scooper(s) & additional misc. equipment** – Approved.
5. **Deceased Pet Identification** – it was brought up that a system needed to be implemented for the purpose of identifying a deceased pet in case the owners wanted to take possession of their pet for funeral arrangements, etc. The best idea was to bag the animal in a different color bag so it would be easily identified as a pet.
6. **Chip Scanner** / the issue was a recent dog slipped through again and Alijah advised that the battery was dead in his current unit and has since been fixed. Furthermore a subsequent complaint from the MHS regarding the 2-3 week lull in transporting the dog in the first place which MCAC advised it would certainly get better at adhering to the 0-3 day policy. Secondly – we agreed to purchase a newer scanner and leaving the older unit with the PD.
7. **Euthanasia** / It was brought to our attention that the 2-person system was more humane and efficient than the 1-person system that Alijah currently uses and will be considered in future situations.

Additional MCAC Kennel Volunteers – In the past we only received minimal interest, but was recently blessed with the assistance of Julie Sosa. Further attempts in signing up additional volunteers will be implemented.

Discussion of our services we used for **deceased animal pick-up**, “Pet-Rest” came up who’s based in Indianapolis, we were advised of another company located in LaPorte, “Pet-Prairie”, I advised I would reach out to them for price quote.

MCAC Truck – the current truck is in bad shape, putting in for new truck in 2016

Urban Chicken Ordinance was discussed – Unlike other cities around us, Michigan City doesn't have an ordinance that spells out several details regarding Urban Chickens and the tax payer would like to see MC update our ordinance so that it spells everything out – **Council Schwanke mentioned that he could have Council Attorney draw up an updated version for the board to review and possibly approve.** Discussions will continue...

Review of Fund Disbursement Reports:

Materials were previously disseminated - Accepted

Only 2 reports supplied, Frieds and Small Animal Shelter – ICS offered no report (again)

Unfinished business:

None

Review of the Michigan City Animal Control Activities, 1st Qtr 2015:

Animal Bites:	0
Neglect Case:	0
Dog Impounds:	21
Cat Impounds:	4
Dogs Transported to LSAS:	N/A
Cats Transported to ICS:	N/A
Euthanized:	3 dogs
Citations Issued:	7

Comments from the Public:

Mandy Hedgewood from 905 Gardena St. – Wants the \$50 fee for leaving a domestic animal in a hot vehicle raised to \$75-\$100.

Jane Bernard from the LCSAS advised to Alijah that a town of the size of MC requires more than a single employee and she empathizes with his situation, but is glad that they'll start seeing the animals much quicker/daily. This is very important regarding vaccinations to combat Kennel Cough and other issues.

Julie Sosa of Long Beach – Expressed gratitude for being accepted as a MCAC Kennel Volunteer and appreciates the fact that we have read her list of concerns and are acting on them. Julie also inquired on volunteers being able to transport nice dogs & cats if Alijah wasn't available. I advised I would check with City Attorney regarding liability.

Jim Ganshaw Lady Ln. – Very concerned that Alijah is only employee...and further explains that euthanasia requires a minimum of 2 people to perform this properly.

Comments from the Board:

None

The next Board meeting will be announced via e-mail

The Animal Advisory Board formally adjourned

**Royce Williams
Chief of Services**