

ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date and Time:	Wednesday, May 15, 2024 *4:30PM
Location:	Saginaw County Animal Care & Control Resource Center 5615 Bay Road, Saginaw, MI 48604
Council Members Present:	Tracey Slodowski, Laureen Lutenski, Tom McIntyre, Kelli Scorsone, Tammy Brown, Dr. Mielke, Emilie Lyday, Jonna Scharf
Council Members Absent:	Cynthia Winiecke, Michele Fleming, Randy Howard
Others in Attendance:	Jaime Ceja, Mary Catherine Hannah, Rachel Horton, Kam Christopher, Alissa Specht, Diane Niederstadt, Pam Goodeyne

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Slodowski called the meeting to order at 4:31PM

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member McIntyre made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from April 17, 2024. Member Brown supported. Motion passed (7-0).

III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Horton reported there are 218 animals in the shelter's care, 131 dogs and 87 cats. There are 102 animals in foster, awaiting surgery/vet care. Spay and neuters are behind. Dr. Kline is giving additional hours as is Dr. Mielke to help get caught up. Vet care is the largest cost to the shelter, 7K in the last month. YTD 43K on surgeries with external veterinarians. This does not include Dr. Kline's time. We are looking for lobby donations, cups, shirts to help bring in revenue. Met with Brandon Rossi, Kochville Fire Inspector, we must have the fireproof oxygen storage room to get the surgical center operational. Tony from maintenance and Granger will submit to the Building Authority. We are working on the 2025 budget now and are trying to get the room included. On Friday all ACO's were partially deputized, they cannot carry guns but can issue warrants. New Kennel Manager to start next week. Received invite to the Best Friends Animal Society conference in July. Oracle fundraiser tonight and Saturday ACO training and then volunteer sleepover at the shelter. May 25th there will be an adoption event at Magoos. Chair Slodowski asked what the shelter's cost is to spay/neuter an animal. Rachel stated it depends on the vet, but Gratiot Animal Hospital and Animal Alley give the best discount, for instance a dental is normally \$1,200 and they charge us \$800.00. Member Lyday asked about donating used flea and tick meds. Rachel stated that if it is expired, it will be discarded. Member Brown asked about times to view animals, as she had a friend who was turned away at the door. Rachel stated that it depends on when they come in, if it's the morning the back is wet and slippery and dangerous, and they may be asked to make an appointment. Member McIntyre asked about the number of animals that can be housed at SCACCRC. Rachel stated 140 if we split cages with the guillotine doors. Looking to increase volunteers, created an easy google doc, that is quicker and easier to fill out and easier to track.

IV. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

1. Fundraising – Member Fleming was not at the meeting but advised Jaime of the next meeting date:
 - a. Next meeting May 29, 2024 at 4:00PM - SCACCRC
2. Training Room – Member Lutenski– Met after last meeting and came up with a list of items to be considered in the contract. Received a sample contract and will use it to create our contract, then it needs to go to civil counsel. Committee members involved are Kelly, Laureen, Tracey, Rachel.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Surgical Center – Covered in the Director's report.
2. Recognition of Law Day award – ACO's received the Law Day award, presented by Kelli and Emilie. Member Lyday stated that it was a well-attended event, and it went very well.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. None

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Cam Christopher - Asked about closing the shelter to intake. People are being told they need to make an appointment. Why can taxpayers not come in if it's an open shelter funded by taxpayers. It's an open shelter so why can't people bring found animals here. Someone got attacked by a dog and was calling for days with no help other than hold the animal themselves. No clue if the animal's temperament is ok and not aggressive. Whose paying fines when MDARD comes in and fines the shelter because there are pop up crates everywhere. You call and they say there are no ACO's on call, why are ACO's here doing meet and greets. Why are there dogs on the street and it isn't being handled?
2. Alissa Specht - I've called you repeatedly (addressing Chair Slodowski) and anything I've talked to you about has not been taken to the Board of Commissioners. Other Commissioners won't answer us, we pay taxes to continue operations. Gideon was just adopted out, he's aggressive he should never have been adopted out. The family that adopted him, wanted to take him for walks, how can that happen when he is a dog aggressive animal. I want answers on why we aren't taking dogs, why are we not accepting dogs? Does anyone have an answer, someone must have accountability. Her job (referencing Director Horton) is to enforce ordinances. This is what we pay for.

VIII. NEXT MEETING

1. Next meeting will be held Wednesday, June 26, 2024.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

1. Member Brown made a motion to adjourn, motion was supported by Member Lyday. Meeting adjourned at 4:59PM.