

**Iowa County Humane Society  
Board Meeting  
April 13, 2015**

Board members present: Marcia Thompson, Lisa Cvengros, Pam Richardson, John Mutschler and Rene Christesen

Absent: Michael Van Sicklen

Staff present: Bonnie Zimmerman

Absent: Binga Manwiller

Public present: Susan Van Sicklen, Sharon Shea, Arnette Small, Terri Davis

The meeting was called to order at 6:43 PM.

The February minutes were accepted and approved.

The **Treasurers report** was submitted and approved and will be available on the website.

Treasurer Lisa C. noted that revenue is down 9% in large part because ICHS has not received the \$25,000 payment for the County Humane Officer position. This was offset by expenses also being down by 13% due to a variety of cost saving initiatives--these include energy savings and savings on dog food. Lisa C. stressed that all cost saving measures should be continued/pursued.

Memorial giving has been strong due to the generosity of those donating in memory of Wayne Hoffmann, Elizabeth Walker and others.

Building expenses were down, much of that because building improvements and repair costs seen in 2014 will not be seen in 2015. Electric/Gas costs were also down compared to 2014. Cat expense is down 7% partially due to lower food costs since switching to Mounds foods. Dog expense was down 73% due to fewer dogs in the kennel (so fewer medical expenses) and the switch to the lower cost dog food.

Lisa C. also notes that the Thoreson loan has been paid in full.

Discussion followed regarding consolidating/changing some of the restricted funds that appear on the balance sheet. The Mod Squad fund name has been changed to Animal Welfare and Enrichment (AWE) fund. This will better describe the current purpose of the fund. Since it was decided at the annual meeting in March that the sanctuary criterion be eliminated from the Animal Welfare and Advocate Review Forms, there is no longer any need for a "Sanctuary Fund". The Sanctuary fund monies will be moved to the AWE fund. The Circle of Caring fund will be eliminated. The Circle of Caring monies will be transferred to the Medical Bill Fund. These changes will serve to clarify and simplify the funds and their uses.

The **Kennel Managers report** was submitted and approved. Bonnie reported that there were 8 stray cats and 3 surrenders in March. There were 18 cats adopted and one euthanized. There are a total of 43 cats currently at the shelter. Angels Wish has expressed interest in taking more of our cats and will place them through their organization. Angels Wish has been extremely helpful in the past and we are very happy to continue that relationship.

Bonnie has been researching cheaper FIV/Leukemia tests and has found a company that can supply ICBS with test kits that will save \$1 per test. Bonnie was commended for continuing to research cost savings measures for ICBS.

Bonnie noted that Jersey has now been at the shelter for almost 1 year. Although she continues to do well, there will be a more concerted effort to bring her to the attention of the general public in order to find her a suitable home.

There was an issue with the Town of Dodgeville. A cat had been brought in as a stray by a member of the public. ICBS office staff was unable to contact the Town of Dodgeville but accepted the cat and a \$20 donation from the person who brought it in. When contacted, the Town did not want to pay the fee for the cat since they had not had advance notice. Although they eventually did pay for the cat they deducted \$20 from the fee because of the donation that had been made when the cat was brought to the shelter.

The City of Mineral Point is refusing to pay for stray cats despite having returned the signed contract and prepaying the \$500 fee. Recently ICBS accepted 2 stray cats from that municipality. After discussion and in view of the signed contract, it was felt that ICBS should go ahead and deduct the fees for the cats from the prepaid amount.

The Town of Mifflin sent back their contract with wording changed and crossed out, thus voiding the contract. They have prepaid \$500 so they will be contacted in an effort to resolve their issues.

Discussion followed and it was suggested that new contracts have a wording change to say that ICBS will "make every effort" to contact the municipality. This will be in place of the current wording which states that ICBS "will" contact the municipality before accepting a stray animal. It was also suggested that ICBS require an upfront fee from all municipalities when they sign their contract. Review and discussion of the contract wording and fees will be ongoing.

Mike V. will be asked to follow up on the problems with the Humane Officer position.

## **Committee Reports**

**Low Income Spay and Neuter Program:** Terri and Marcia continue to work on this. They will meet with the donors in an effort to develop a protocol for presentation at the May meeting.

**AWE Committee** met on 3/19/15 to discuss the holding kennels. They will give their recommendations and proposal to the Building and Grounds Committee. There will be no building permits needed.

**Fundraising Committee:** The bake sale reported a profit of \$862 which is down from previous sales. ICBS will have a booth at The Grilled Cheese Championship and Sharon reports that volunteers are still needed. Sharon notes that the booth space is fairly large and suggested that ICBS have a laptop running with a slide show of our adoptable animals along with other informational materials. Bonnie will look into that possibility.

It was noted that the Dodgeville City Wide Garage Sale will be 4-25-15 but that ICBS was too late to get on the official map. Discussion followed and it was decided that ICBS will combine a garage sale with our annual plant sale in May. The plant sale will be May 16th and May 23rd. In addition to the

local advertising and in an effort to attract customers from outside the Dodgeville area, an ad for the plant sale and garage sale will be placed in the Spring Green Home News. Pam will handle the placement of the ad.

June 7th will be the Mounds Dog Fest. ICCHS will have a booth at this event and is in need of volunteers. It is important that ICCHS have a presence at this event in order to increase the chances of getting on the list to receive free dog food from Mounds.

It was noted that there is a \$100 restaurant gift card available that could be used for future fundraising events.

Sharon has requested banners with the ICCHS name and logo to be used on display tables at events. She will look into cost and options.

The next Fundraising Committee meeting will be 4/21/15 at 6:15 at the shelter.

**Building and Grounds Committee:** Work continues on furnace repair and will be completed by the end of April.

The flooring replacement project is ongoing with the reception area and part of the hallway now completed.

**Personnel Committee:** Interviews continue for the position of Outreach/Fundraising Manager.

**Other Items:** The Bombay Bicycle Club has decided that they will be holding their benefit for a different organization so they will no longer need volunteers from ICCHS.

The Dog Bite Prevention Program grant was discussed. We will go ahead with the ordering of the materials needed and will make sure that the schools and other organizations such as 4H and Scouts are made aware when the program is available. The Iowa County Health Department has been contacted to let them know about the program and to request current dog bite statistics.

Ordering donation boxes to take to events and place with businesses was discussed. Options for types of boxes, size and cost will be researched.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20.

Submitted by Pam Richardson.