

Iowa County Humane Society  
Board Meeting  
February 8, 2016

Board members present: Marcia Thompson, Lisa Cvengros, John Mutschler, Mike Van Sicklen and Pam Richardson

Staff present: Bonnie Zimmerman and Jen Siegel

Absent: Binga Manwiller

Public present: Arnette Small, Terri Davis and Laurie Mueller

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

The **January minutes** were approved as submitted and will be available on the website.

The **Treasurers report** was submitted and approved and will be available on the website. Lisa reports that 2015 income was down while expenses were up. A full report will be given at the annual meeting in March.

January has had a strong start compared to 2015 and donations are up. We now have roughly \$87,000 in the bank, \$22,200 of which is in temporarily restricted funds, leaving \$65,000 left for expenses.

The 2015 matching grant of \$5000 has been received from the County.

There was a brief discussion to clarify the details on the \$35,000 Iowa County loan due in 2017. Several possibilities are being explored to determine the best way to handle this debt.

The **Kennel Managers** report was presented. Bonnie noted that there are currently 50 cats and 9 dogs at the shelter with 2 dogs in foster care.

A discussion of feral cats revealed that there are usually 10 to 20 feral cats that are brought to the shelter each year.

A motion was made to allow the Spay/Neuter Fund to be used to pay for the spaying/neutering of feral cats that are brought to the shelter from non-contracted municipalities. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The Town of Dodgeville is requesting that they be allowed to prepay a set amount based on the average number animals taken in from the town. Bonnie and Jen will examine the data and report their findings to the Board.

The Town of Mineral Point is requesting a modified contract that will allow the Town to keep animals for 7 days before turning them over to ICHS. Mike will prepare an example of such a contract for discussion and review at the next Board meeting.

The **Office Managers** report was submitted and reviewed. There was a question as to why some stray animals were accepted from non-contracted municipalities. It was determined that these animals were accepted due to unusual circumstances such as injury and inability to contact municipalities.

Binga will be given the official title of "Office Manager".

Jen will be sending a letter to all non-contracted municipalities outlining their legal responsibilities if they choose to house/handle strays on their own.

The **Outreach Managers** report was given. Jen reported that she and Mike attended the Towns Association Meeting in January. Both felt this was very productive. Many questions and misconceptions were addressed.

The Humane Officer had 11 calls in the month of January.

Jen continues to work on future fundraisers.

There are still some municipalities who haven't returned their contracts. Letters will be sent to those who haven't responded.

Jen will look into the possibility of preparing a newspaper article explaining to the public how the municipality contracts with ICBS are handled and the responsibilities of non-contracting municipalities.

Jen is planning to attend the Dodgeville Chamber of Commerce Dinner to represent ICBS. ICBS will pay the fee for the dinner and donate an auction item.

Committee reports

**Nominating Committee:** The Nominating Committee has proposed 3 prospective candidates for the Board of Directors. The nominees are Nancy K. Smith, Diane Evans and Sue Ludlum. They will be introduced at the annual meeting which will be March 14th at 7PM at Stonefield.

**Building and Grounds:** The furnace has been installed to heat the training room and costs were covered by donors. A/C will be installed in the near future. A date for the next meeting has yet to be decided.

**Animal Adoptability:** Freckles is now under review due to health issues.

There was a discussion of initiating a possible adoption appeal process in the event that someone is turned down for an adoption. There was support for the idea that adopters who feel they have been turned down unfairly, should be able to request mediation and appeal that decision. A suggestion was made that if someone wanted to appeal, a Board member could be appointed as mediator. It would be up to the adopter to contact the Board to initiate that process.

There was a discussion of the different ways that our adoptable animals can be advertised. It was felt that Facebook was the most viable option and Jen will increase the use of Facebook to promote our adoptable animals.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Submitted by Pam Richardson.