



Animal Shelter

Sonja Culler <sculler@embarqmail.com>

Wed 2/10/2021 7:41 AM

To: Mary Gouge <clerk@cartercountytn.gov>

**Animal Shelter Board Meeting Minutes
12 January 2021
By Zoom @ 6:00 pm**

The Animal Shelter Board met on 12 Jan. 2021 by zoom meeting at 6 pm.

Chairman Mike Barnett called meeting to order.

Chairman Barnett asked for roll call.

Members present was Chairman Mike Barnett, Dr. Bob Acuff, Kelly Collins, Sonja Culler, Kim Birchfield, Mike Simerly and Wes Frazier. All members present.

Minutes was presented by email. Motion was made by Sonja Culler and second by Dr. Bob Acuff. All voted Aye, none opposed.

Chairman Mike Barnett asked Director Shannon Posada to give some shelter updates.

Director Posada stated the Christmas adoption event very well, many animals adopted.

Director Posada stated the number of animals is lower at this time at the shelter. Director Posada stated 17 cats was taken to be spayed and neutered on 11 Jan.2021 and appear to all be doing well. Director Posada stated the shelter is preparing for upcoming adoption events at the shelter and Petsence in Elizabethton.

Chairman Barnett has asked Trademark to meet at the shelter to get existing issues with grinder pump and leak resolved soon. Chairman Barnett stated the improvements to the back dog runs to make kennels more weather friendly and warmer is continuing. Chairman Barnett said enclosing the back dog runs is coming along nicely. Chairman Barnett informed members he will update on a date & time to meet with Trademark about ongoing issues. Mike Barnett asked Director Posada to discuss animal control. Director Posada stated there is no animal control on some days depending on availability to fill animal control position. Director Posada said depending on staffing as to when and what days animal control will be available.

Chairman Barnett asked if any commissioners had reached out to director Posada. Director Posada stated she had an email from Ginger Holdren requesting information, and Mr. Charles VonCannon had came by to look at a dog for himself.

Chairman Barnett asked if anyone had any information on the hot topic of the 501C3 that had been discussed in previous meetings? Chairman Barnett stated it would take some time to work through details of a 501C3 with city and county.

Dr. Bob Acuff explained several had attended the county budget committee recently. Finance director Brad Burke provided figures pertaining to the animal shelter. Dr. Acuff recommended to request finance director Brad Burke to provide average daily costs for any other shelter that financial management wants to compare ECCAS too. Director Posada stated some commissioners had questioned the numbers and calculations of Finance director Brad Burke at a previous committee meeting. Daniel Estes asked for the purpose of the numbers that had been calculated. Kelly Collins responded and stated several commissioners feel the animal daily dollar amount is higher than what is being paid per

student. Kelly Collins stated that the comparison with the information that's been provided from the collection of other animal shelters is like comparing apples to oranges. Mike Simerly commented on the shelter would have to come up with a significant endowment amount to even consider becoming a 501C3. Daniel Estes stated forming a 501C3 is a fundamental reconfiguration on how the animal shelter is ran. Daniel Estes also stated the county/city needs consent from both parties to be in joint agreement and continue communication from both city and county. Kelly Collins asked county attorney Josh Hardin to weight in on the 501C3. Mr. Hardin explained city/county has joint operating agreement and if anything needed to be changed, it needed to be mutually agreed upon. Much discussion was continued about the 501C3 from city and county members and attorney Josh Hardin in regards to the joint partnership. Kelly Collins asked board members to discuss animal control in more detail. Director Posada stated she hasn't been made aware of any meetings specifically regarding animal control. Several members was in discussion including Daniel Estes, county commissioners, city council, Chairman Mike Barnett, and shelter director. Chairman Mike Barnett explained the shelter is happy to provide any information that may be requested for comparison. In closing, Chairman Mike Barnett wished everyone well and stated his greatest desire was to work together jointly.

Next meeting scheduled for 9 Feb. 2021.

Motion was made to adjourn by Mike Barnett and second by Dr. Bob Acuff.

Approved

BY: _____

Minutes approved by committee on 2/9/21.
Attending meeting:

Sonja Culler
Bob Acuff
Kelly Collins

Thanks,
Sonja
Sent from Mail for Windows 10