

**Animal Control Ad Hoc Committee
McHenry County Government Center
2200 N. Seminary
Woodstock, IL 60098**

Minutes of Thursday, March 10th, 2005

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairman Moy at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Perry Moy; Richard Klasen; Virginia Peschke; Edward Varga; Gregory Sierminski; Gary Andresky; Jim Timmerman; Cindy Bethke; Sally Justen; and Jeannette Everett. Also in attendance: Jackie Smith and Cecilia Browne, Animal Outreach; Ken Koehler, McHenry County Board Chairman; Pat McNulty, Health Department; Norma Spitzbart and Cathy Lockwood, Animal Control, and the press.

Perry Moy, Chairman
Richard Klasen Virginia Peschke
Edward Varga Gregory Sierminski
Gary Andresky Jim Timmerman
Cindy Bethke Sally Justen
Jeannette Everett

Public Participation

None

New Business

Policies concerning animal control.

Old Business

Goals and Purposes: Chairman Moy opened the meeting by outlining the three goals of (1) corporate structure, (2) volunteer outreach, and (3) policies for the future. Concerning corporate structure Pat McNulty informed the committee on how animal control has been a division of the health department in McHenry County since 1971, with the county board being financially responsible for animal control. To this, Chairman Moy opened the floor to discussion on whether or not animal control should stay within the health department or be “stand alone”. Discussion ensued, with committee members both for and against animal control being a stand alone operation. Main concerns expressed included the most important goal of animal control to be the protection of the public health and well being, while also protecting and trying to secure adoption for lost or unwanted pets. More research was requested by the committee about the adoption policies of stand alone animal control complex’s as well as information on how to deal with agricultural and exotic animals. Next, issues concerning volunteerism were addressed as the committee put forth the possibility of partnering with community organizations. Jackie Smith from Animal Outreach informed the committee of the goals of animal outreach with the goal of finding homes for animals instead of animals being euthanated, as well as the recent success animal outreach has had with policies just now being approved and adopted. Animal Outreach is licensed by the state through the department of agriculture, funded by the state, and abides by the same laws animal control abides by. To this, the committee put forth the possibility of creating the position of volunteer liaison or coordinator.

Executive Session

None

Reports

None

Members Comments

Virginia Peschke suggested that any community group wishing to participate in the next meeting should bring three suggestions for animal control on how to better serve the community.

Adjournment

Noting no further business, Chairman Moy made a motion, seconded by Richard Klasen, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.