

## Animal Services Advisory Board

October 3, 2013

The Abilene Animal Services Advisory Board held a regular meeting on October 3, 2013 in the basement Conference room in City Hall.

The Chairman, Dr. Jack Callan, called the meeting to order at 3:30 P.M.

Members present were: Aaron Vannoy, Dr. Jack Callan, Leah Herron and Meagan Santee. Also present were Kelley Messer, Asst. City Attorney, legal representative and Christy Frost, Recording Secretary.

The minutes of the April 25, 2013 meeting were presented by the chairman, Dr. Callan. Dr. Callan made the motion to accept as presented, seconded by Mr. Rigsby, approved by acclimation.

Aaron presented the Manager's report comparing data for fiscal year 2013. (attached)

Capital Improvement Project – Wing C addition is scheduled to begin bid process after January 1, 2014. The work will included in the 2009 plan is for extension to the south off the west wing. Replacing the grit tank and connecting current drain system to new tank, channel drains with grate covers and modifying existing outdoor kennel partitions to be solid block between outdoor runs instead of chain link have been upgrades made to the 2009 plans. Depending on bids submitted possible additions to current plans could include; dog wash area, inside and outside kennels on east and west kennels and adoption room area.

A revised animal ordinance and fee changes are scheduled for submission to the City Council before January, 2014. The recommended fee schedule was submitted for review. (attached) There will be a meeting with the veterinarians scheduled for late October to discuss fee changes and possible implementation of Pet Data program for issuing city license.

The 2014 approved budget was submitted for review. A change was made during 2013 from push to talk cell phone communication to radio transmitters due to the poor and worsening service of the cell phone transmissions. Funds to upgrade the radio system from analog to digital have been included in the 2014 budge. Dr. Callan wanted to know the status of current vehicle quality. Aaron explained a new truck has been received, however, due to changes in the design of the frame; the kennel boxes are set much higher on the body. The height presents a problem with the amount of space between the wheel and the box that will allow an animal to possibly become trapped or injured. Modifications are currently being considered to alleviate this problem.

Bids were opened in June for the Contract Veterinarian to supply service for rabies quarantined animals. Dr. Lynn Lawhon, D.V.M. was awarded the contract with an increase in salary from \$6000 per month to \$6250 for the next three years with the possibility of extending the contract for an additional two years. Dr. Lawhon has held this contract for the past 6 years. Dr. Lawhon has provided excellent service during this time period.

Animal Services has been very fortunate to receive a total \$10,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Abilene. The Pat Meleen Vaughn Humane Treatment of Animals grants will provide \$6000 toward sick and injured animals to be treated to increase the adoptability of the animas or improve the chance for placement into a breed specific rescue. The additional \$4000 is provided for vaccination of incoming animals less than 1 year of age to provide a minimum chance at building antibodies against disease. Abilene Fire

Department has also donated "Sparky" the old training trailer to Animal Services to be converted into an adoption trailer and Emergency Response vehicle. Animal Services staff are currently gutting the trailer and adding kennels to house up to 25 animals for adoption events or shelter during a crises situation. During a disaster response, the vehicle will hold animals in a climate controlled enclosure as well as transport portable kennels to an offsite humane shelter for their animals. Mister Carwash has donated \$7,700 toward the renovations, Airtite Windows has donated new windows, Sign Pro is donating graphics for the sides of the trailer and Malm Construction is donating building materials and labor. Mingle with your Mutt at the Movies will be held Saturday, October 5 at the Festival Garden at Nelson Park. This event is being held in conjunction with the Recreation Department and will include a microchip clinic for animals to be microchipped for a \$10 fee. Free programs will include a dog obedience demonstration, the movie "Bolt" and popcorn, drinks and dog food samples provided by ACCO Farm and Ranch.

With no further business on the agenda, Dr. Callan adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Jack Callan, Chairman  
Christy Frost, Recording Secretary

Date minutes approved: 12-19-13