

Montgomery County Board

HWE Committee Meeting

Minutes

Date: Thursday, April 4th, 2013

Time: 8:30 AM – Historic Courthouse Conference Room

Members Present: Chairman Connie Beck, Chuck Graden, Mike Webb, Richard Wendel, and Board Chairman Roy Hertel

Members Absent: Earlene Robinson

Others Present: Sandy Leitheiser, Dawn Lutz, Bill Gonet, Nancy Richardson

The committee met today to discuss the following:

1. **Update/Approval Elections:** County Clerk Sandy Leitheiser reported the Election preparation is going well and thanked the Recycling Department for their use of their truck to deliver voting equipment. A total of 310 ballots have been processed and 121 ballots are still outstanding, totaling 431 Absentee Ballots requested and/or cast to date.
2. **Update/Approval Recycling Program and Events:** Dawn Lutz:
Lutz is working on charts for all the information that was requested at last month's meeting and will look to complete after our Electronics Drive.
 - **Snow Removal Update:** No snow removal services were on the Vendor List so Lutz hired David Beal to plow the Recycling parking lot, but he prefers not to be added to the Vendor List at this time.
 - **Website Update:** Lutz is putting links for recycling fluorescent bulbs, batteries and household hazardous waste on the County website.
 - **Tours:** Lutz has 3 tours scheduled for April. The Cub Scout troop met on the 2nd at 6:30 p.m. and she will meet with Head Start on the 29th and 30th.
 - **Electronics Recycling Reminder:** The next Electronics Recycling Drive is scheduled for April 18th and 19th. Thursday, April 18th at 12 p.m. - 5 p.m. and Friday, April 19th at 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
3. **Update/Approval EPA Report:**
 - **Resolution:** Bill Gonet presented the Five Year Municipal Waste Management Plan Update for the committee to review. Need to pass a resolution at Full Board. **Motion by Chuck Graden, second by Richard Wendel to Approve and Recommend the Resolution to Adopt a Five Year Solid Waste Recycling Act Plan Update. All in favor, motion carried.**
 - **Fees:** Gonet stated that he is working with Assistant State's Attorney Betsy Wilson to see if a Host Fee and a Tipping fee can be generated from the landfill. The County currently has a Host Fee. There are two counties now that currently have a tipping fee and a host fee. Wilson is looking at the host fee agreement to see if this could work. The host fee agreement was signed in 1996 and is a 20 year agreement or until the landfill is full. Gonet reported that the State controls the tipping fee and how the County spends the money and that the County will want to keep a host fee to have control over the money. Wilson is currently reviewing the host fee agreement and state statutes for the host and tipping fees.
4. **Update/Approval Animal Control Facility and Program:** Nancy Richardson
 - **Animal Control Intake Summary:** 4 put down – aggressive bite – cat
 - **Update on Revenues & Expenses:** Committee reviewed the reports.
 - **Free Roaming cat room:** Per Betsy Wilson, the County can use volunteer labor as long as a County employee is present. Chuck Graden will help with the project.
 - **Pet Population Control Fund:** Assistant States Attorney Betsy Wilson is reviewing information for the PPCF. Richardson stated that \$3,040 has been collected and \$565 has been spent so far this year out of the PPCF. Richardson stated that PAWS CARE has been paying for a lot of spay and neuters, but that is changing. Richardson explained that she used County Vets

when possible for spay and neuters but sometimes APL is cheaper and they can take them in faster. Richardson sent six puppies to APL this morning for spay and neuter. Recently Dr. Probst was able to schedule a dog in at the last minute.

- **Volunteer Release Form Revisions:** Committee wants an 18 year age limit for volunteers to work with dogs. Assistant States Attorney Betsy Wilson is reviewing revisions of the volunteer release forms and will advise the Committee.
- **Contract with PAWS CARE:** Betsy Wilson will start working on a contract with PAWS CARE.
- **Rabies Clinic:** Has been scheduled for Saturday, April 13th, 2013 in the afternoon.
- **Microchip Clinic:** Will be schedule for May 2013. Richardson reported that she had switched to a different microchip in the fall and other the two employees are now more comfortable with inserting the microchip. Needle is half the size and easier for small dogs.
- **Proposed Legislation:** Richardson reported that there is proposed legislation to have animal control statistics put on the County web site which is OK. Other legislation would require people who sign over their animal would have to be notified before the animal is euthanized if space runs out and it is not adopted. This would be a problem because a lot of the people that sign over their animal should not get it back. Richardson stated that sometimes instead of charging neglect, she'll tell them to sign it over and they'll handle it. The County Animal Control of Illinois Organization is not happy with this part of the new legislation.
- **Rabies Tags:** Committee discussed raising the rabies tab fees to \$10 for a sterile pet and \$25 for an intact pet. Hertel stated that the \$10 difference goes to Pet Population Control Fund (PPCF) and will get rolled over to be used for spay and neuter of animals. The balance of PPCF should not go into general fund. The motion was rescinded at last month's full board meeting because there were some questions about the PPCF fund and Chairman Hertel wanted that resolved before this was voted on. Richardson stated that she doesn't have a lot of ways to increase needed funds and this increase doesn't cost anything on our end. Raising the tag fee doesn't cost any labor, the certificates just need to be changed to reflect the new fees before printing. Richardson stated that if the increase in fees is a hardship on someone, they can still come to the Rabies Clinic. **Motion by Mike Webb, second by Richard Wendel to Raise Rabies Tags for 1 Year Tags to \$10 and \$25 and for 3 Year Tags to \$25 and \$70. All in favor, motion carried.**
- **Tranquilizer Gun:** Richardson stated that she has checked with Macoupin County and they have a rifle tranquilizer gun and that the employees would needs to be certified. Richardson also stated that an employee should never go alone when using the gun and that several people would need to be trained with the gun. Gun cost is about \$2,000. The veterinary would mix the chemicals so we would not have to keep records on the control substance that is used. Classes are only held every so often. Animal Control Act states that employees have to be trained. Chairman Hertel said to check with the City of Hillsboro because they had one.
- Richardson checked with other counties to see if they have potential adopters signs a Release form to look at animals and other counties do not have this requirement.

5. **Update/Approval Tours of Animal Control Facility and Hillsboro Recycling Center:** Chairman Hertel stated that the Full Board will be invited for tours to the following facilities after the board meeting.

- **Tuesday, May 14th after Board Meeting – Animal Control**
- **Tuesday, June 11th after Board Meeting – Hillsboro Recycling**

6. **Update/Approval County Cell Phones:** Chairman Hertel stated that Megan Beeler's class has completed a survey on the County Cell Phone usage and expenses and has come up with a plan to consolidate them all into one bill and one account. This will be a savings of about \$400 per month.

Motion to pay the Bills by Richard Wendel, second by Mike Webb. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion to adjourn by Mike Webb and second by Richard Wendel. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m. Minutes respectfully submitted by acting secretary Chris Daniels as Deputized by the Montgomery County Clerk and Recorder, Sandy Leitheiser.

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