

ANIMAL CONTROL AD HOC COMMITTEE

**DRAFT - MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, March 7, 2024 – 12:00 p.m.

Howard Male Conference Room

Commissioners Present: Burt Francisco, Chair  
John Kozlowski  
Brenda Fournier

Others Present: Jennifer Mathis, Interim County Administrator  
Sheriff Erik Smith  
Animal Control Officer Michelle Reid  
Kim MacArthur, Board Assistant  
LeAnne Bloom, Second Chance Animal Shelter  
Cindy Johnson, HHS President  
Andrew Paad, HHS  
Friends of Animal Control Members

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Burt Francisco called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

ADOPT AGENDA

Chair Francisco presented the agenda for approval. Motion was made by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Kozlowski to adopt the agenda with the additions of 1) Public Comment and moving agenda items 3) Update on City of Alpena and 4) Discussion of Friends of Animal Control Proposed Contract under Closed Session as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Ed Patton of Alpena questioned any advancements that have been made in regard to finding management for the animal shelter and any changes for the animals involved. He asked that all entities work together for the benefit of the animals.

INFORMATION ITEM: Animal Control Officer Michelle Reid presented the Monthly Animal Control Report for February (attachment #1) for review.

Committee went into closed session at 12:12 p.m. to discuss a recent City of Alpena hoarding case. Huron Humane Society representatives Cindy Johnson and Andrew Paad, and LeAnne Bloom with Second Chance Animal Shelter were invited to stay during the closed session conversation.

Cindy Johnson, Andrew Paad, LeAnne Bloom and Deputy Reid left the room during closed session on discussion of the Friends of Alpena County Animal Control proposed contract.

Opened session at 1:00 p.m.

Roll call was taken. All Committee members present.

Chair Francisco thanked everyone for their help during last week's hoarding case.

Motion was made by Commissioner Kozlowski and supported by Commissioner Fournier to receive and file the proposed contract from the Friends of Alpena County Animal Control for further review and discussion. Motion carried.

OTHER DISCUSSION: Chair Francisco reported he met with city leaders, representatives from Huron Humane Society and Sheriff Smith to discuss the coordination and cooperation between the city and county of Alpena when handling domestic animal (dogs and cats) incidents. The city and county tentatively agree on the following procedures:

- a) Any domestic animal(s) that, based upon a Law Enforcement Officer assessment that is aggressive, vicious, alleged to be a danger to persons, property or other animals, involved in a bite incident, or may be used as evidence in a criminal complaint will be turned over to the Alpena County Animal Control Shelter for impoundment IAW Article 7 of the Alpena County Animal Control Ordinance.
- b) Any domestic animal(s) that presents a friendly or docile disposition and/or is a stray picked up by a citizen or Law Enforcement Officer or is surrendered by the owner for further adoption will be taken to a local, licensed, protection shelter (i.e. Huron Humane Society or 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Animal Shelter). Upon receiving the animal, the guidance contained in references 1b and 1c above will be followed for further disposition of the animal.

Chair Francisco wanted to present this to the Committee before taking it to the Full Board. Discussion was made on legal review to implement the agreement.

Motion was made by Commissioner Fournier and supported by Commissioner Kozlowski to recommend approval of moving forward with an agreement between the city and the county on handling domestic animal incidents pending legal review as presented. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEM #1: The Committee recommends approval of an agreement between the City of Alpena and the County of Alpena when handling domestic animal (dogs and cats) incidents (pending legal review) as follows:**

- a) **Any domestic animal(s) that, based upon a Law Enforcement Officer assessment that is aggressive, vicious, alleged to be a danger to persons, property or other animals, involved in a bite incident, or may be used as evidence in a criminal complaint will be turned over to the Alpena County Animal Control Shelter for impoundment IAW Article 7 of the Alpena County Animal Control Ordinance.**
- b) **Any domestic animal(s) that presents a friendly or docile disposition and/or is a stray picked up by a citizen or Law Enforcement Officer or is surrendered by the owner for further adoption will be taken to a local, licensed, protection shelter (i.e. Huron Humane Society or 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Animal Shelter). Upon receiving the animal, the guidance contained in references 1b and 1c below will be followed for further disposition of the animal.**

**References in Effect:**

- a) **State of Michigan dog law of 1919, Section 287.261 thru 287.290**
- b) **Alpena County Animal Control Ordinance of Dec 11, 1985 to include all amendments through Dec 13, 2022.**
- c) **City of Alpena, Code of Ordinances, Chapter 10, Animals**

**\*Next Meeting: Thursday, April 4, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. in Howard Male Conference Room**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Commissioner Kozlowski and supported by Commissioner Fournier to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 1:09 p.m.

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Burt Francisco, Chair

kvm