



DU PAGE COUNTY

Animal Services Committee

Final Summary

421 N. COUNTY FARM ROAD
WHEATON, IL 60187
www.dupagecounty.gov

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

7:30 AM

Room 3500A

1. CALL TO ORDER

7:30 AM meeting was called to order by Chair Krajewski at 7:30 AM.

2. ROLL CALL

PRESENT:	Cynthia Cronin Cahill, District 5 Dawn DeSart, Grant Eckhoff, Krajewski and Melissa Martinez
ABSENT:	Paula Garcia

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were offered.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS - CHAIR KRAJEWSKI

Chair Krajewski stated the DuPage Animal Friends Gala on May 15, 2026 was a huge success and thanked Laura and Jill for their hard work planning the event. The DAF board is undergoing some changes as DAF expands the level of support and increases fundraising for the shelter. Recruiting is underway to bring on new board members to assist in meeting DAF's ambitious fundraising goals.

5. MINUTES APPROVAL

5.A. [26-1509](#)

Animal Services Committee - Regular Meeting - Tuesday, April 21, 2026

Attachments: [Summary Minutes - April 2026](#)

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Cynthia Cronin Cahill
SECONDER:	Dawn DeSart

6. GRANTS

6.A. [FI-R-0084-26](#)

Acceptance and appropriation of interest earned on investment for the DuPage Animal Friends Phase II Capital Project Grant, Company 5000, Accounting Unit 1310, in the amount of \$15,598. (Animal Services)

Attachments: [DAFCAP2 Appropriating Interest Budget - ATTACHMENT I](#)

RESULT:	APPROVED AND SENT TO FINANCE
MOVER:	Cynthia Cronin Cahill
SECONDER:	Dawn DeSart

7. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Laura thanked everyone that attended the DAF gala on Friday and thanked Jill for her hard work on the event. More events and restaurant givebacks are coming up this year.

Laura introduced DCAS’s new Operations Manager, Tiffany Janda. Tiffany has 7 years experience in the animal welfare field and expressed she is excited to be on board.

The animal population is currently at 148 animals. There has been a recent surge in dog intake. Staff are discussing ways to creatively market and move dogs into forever homes, capitalizing on the wave of news and interest surrounding recent beagle rescue to highlight our own community’s animals still waiting to be freed from their cages. DCAS currently has animals that have been in the system for well over 60 days. The longest resident is a court case dog that spent more than 200 days before being signed over to Animal Services so that an outcome could be secured for her. Staff are now actively seeking permanent placement for her.

Community events are now being scheduled for the summer and fall months. Events are communicated via DCAS social media channels, e-newsletter, and will soon be included in the event calendar on the County website.

Chair Krajewski inquired whether a heat map exists that shows where the most at-risk animals are located. Laura said this data does exist and that management uses this info to strategically target outreach in communities where the need is greatest. Laura stated that cats present the biggest challenge, so a lot of effort is being funneled into services that prevent cat intake and unwanted litters.

Brian inquired about a possible mega adoption event. Laura shared nothing is scheduled yet, but the Chicagoland Humane Coalition is weighing options. There will be adoption activities coinciding with PetSmart Charities National Adoption Week.

Nick and Geoff provided an update on the status of HVAC unit replacement. Animal Services is solar-ready. If a donor were found to purchase the solar panels, the shelter could convert to solar energy.

Member DeSart asked for clarification on the estimated proceeds from the DAF gala. Laura stated that the estimated gross revenue is around \$280K. Chair Krajewski stated that expenses are kept as low as possible - all liquor for the event was donated and the venue provided steep

discounts for the event.

8. OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

9. NEW BUSINESS

Member Eckhoff shared copies of the most recent DCBA Brief highlighting current legislation. Laura and Chair Krajewski gave an update on Humane Lobby Day last month in Springfield where the animal forfeiture bill, puppy mill loophole bill, and CVT administered rabies vaccine bill were discussed with legislators.

10. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Minutes

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File #: 26-1509

Agenda Date: 5/19/2026

Agenda #: 5.A.



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Animal Services Committee

Summary

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Tuesday, April 21, 2026

7:30 AM

Room 3500A

1. CALL TO ORDER

7:30 AM meeting was called to order by Chair Krajewski at 7:30 AM.

2. ROLL CALL

Member DeSart arrived at 7:35 AM.

PRESENT:	Grant Eckhoff, Paula Garcia, Krajewski and Melissa Martinez
ABSENT:	Cynthia Cronin Cahill
LATE:	District 5 Dawn DeSart

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were offered.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS - CHAIR KRAJEWSKI

Chair Krajewski reminded committee members that the DuPage Animal Friends Gala is coming up on May 15, 2026, at the Marriott Oakbrook.

Chair Krajewski informed the committee that he and others are headed to Springfield for Animal Welfare Lobby Day with DCAS staff and members of the Chicagoland Humane Coalition to meet with DuPage County legislators. Two bills are currently being considered: an animal forfeiture bill and a bill that will close the Dog Dealer loophole in the puppy mill ban.

5. MINUTES APPROVAL

5.A. [26-1233](#)

Animal Services Committee - Regular Meeting - Tuesday, February 17, 2026

Attachments: [Summary Minutes - February 2026](#)

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Paula Garcia
SECONDER:	Melissa Martinez

6. PROCUREMENT REQUISITIONS

6.A. [26-1234](#)

Decrease and close PO 7229-0001 SERV, issued to Covetrus North America LLC, in the amount of \$36,471.99. Contract has expired.

Attachments: [7229 - COVETRUS CO](#)

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Paula Garcia
SECONDER:	Melissa Martinez

7. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Laura shared that DCAS is celebrating Volunteer Appreciation Week this week. DCAS's lifesaving work would not be possible without the hundreds of volunteers and fosters that support Animal Services in countless ways. A Volunteer Appreciation luncheon will be held at the shelter in June. Committee members can expect to receive an invitation in the coming weeks.

Animal Services is participating in Animal Welfare Lobby Day as part of the Chicagoland Humane Coalition's Advocacy Task Force. The Task Force addresses issues that are bubbling up in animal welfare. One piece of legislation being supported will make it possible for Certified Veterinary Technicians to administer rabies vaccinations with the oversight of a licensed veterinarian. Doing so will alleviate some of the delays and backlog created by the current requirement that rabies vaccinations only be administered by veterinarian, in light of the current veterinary shortage, while expanding access to care and ensuring rabies compliance. This bill mirrors legislation enacted in other states, has the support of the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association (ISVMA) and Illinois Animal Control Association (IACA), and has passed the House and will be moving on to the Senate.

Laura reiterated that legislation championed by Humane World for Animals (formerly HSUS) to close the puppy mill loophole will address entities that dropped their retail pet store license but continue to sell and profit from commercially bred dogs and cats sold under a Dealer license.

The animal forfeiture bill is being led by the DuPage County State's Attorney and will increase the length of time allowed for the State's Attorney to file for forfeiture in animal owner's duties or animal cruelty cases. Currently the timeframe to file is 14 days - including weekends and holidays. Additionally, once the paperwork is filed, there is currently no statutory requirement to hold the hearing in a timely manner. This has resulted in animals being held at Animal Services for weeks or months at a time without the ability to move forward with finding an outcome for the animal. This has led to the deterioration in mental health of court case animals and is a drain on resources that could be directed toward helping other animals. DCAS is rarely reimbursed for the care provided for court case animals held at the shelter.

Eight other animal welfare organizations will also be participating in Humane Lobby Day, with Animal Protection League bringing shelter animals to the capital for photo ops.

Laura shared that the new Marketing Coordinator is currently being on-boarded. The new Operations Manager will be starting on Monday, April 27th. The second full-time Veterinarian position still remains posted and unfilled.

Chair Krajewski mentioned Midwest University recently opened a veterinary school and is working with Animal Services to, in a few years, provide senior veterinary students to gain hands-on shelter medicine experience at DCAS.

Laura shared the animal population is slowly creeping up with kitten season just beginning.

Giving DuPage Days (GDD) is coming up on May 1st. DuPage Animal Friends is again participating and has a GDD social media toolkit available. More information can be found on the DAF website and on DAF socials. Folks are encouraged to create a DAF fundraising page for GDD to help DAF reach their goal of raising \$15,000.

8. OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

9. NEW BUSINESS

Member Eckhoff inquired after a recent complaint. Laura explained what occurred and is drafting a response which will be shared with committee members.

Member Eckhoff suggested that Animal Services come up with a way to honor the memory of DAF Founding Board Member, Deanna Wilkins. Chair Krajewski and Laura stated that a few ideas are being discussed.

10. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Finance Resolution

421 N. COUNTY FARM
ROAD
WHEATON, IL 60187
www.dupagecounty.gov

File #: FI-R-0084-26

Agenda Date: 5/19/2026

Agenda #: 10.A.

ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF INTEREST EARNED ON INVESTMENT
FOR THE DUPAGE ANIMAL FRIENDS PHASE II CAPITAL PROJECT GRANT
COMPANY 5000 - ACCOUNTING UNIT 1310
\$15,598

(Under the administrative direction of Animal Services)

WHEREAS, the County of DuPage heretofore accepted and appropriated the DuPage Animal Friends Phase II Capital Project Grant, pursuant to Resolution FI-R-0899-18 for the period September 12, 2018, until exhausted; as amended; and

WHEREAS, the County of DuPage has invested cash balances in accordance with the DuPage Animal Friends grant requirements and estimates earnings in the amount of \$15,598 (FIFTEEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED NINETY-EIGHT NO/100 DOLLARS) during the term of the award, to be used for the support of the DuPage County Animal Friends Phase II Capital Project Grant; and

WHEREAS, no additional County funds are required to appropriate this interest earned; and

WHEREAS, the DuPage County Board finds that the need to appropriate said interest creates an emergency within the meaning of the Counties Act, Budget Division, (55 ILCS 5/6-1003).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the DuPage County Board that the interest earned in the amount of \$15,597.56 (FIFTEEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED NINETY-SEVEN AND 56/100 DOLLARS) be and is hereby accepted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the DuPage County Board that the additional appropriation on the attached sheet (ATTACHMENT I) in the amount of \$15,598 (FIFTEEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED NINETY-EIGHT NO/100 DOLLARS) be made and added to the DuPage Animal Friends Phase II Capital Project Grant, Company 5000 - Accounting Unit 1310, for the period of September 12, 2018 until funding is exhausted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the DuPage County Board, that should local funding cease for this grant, the Animal Services Committee shall review the need for continuing the specified program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that should the Animal Services Committee determine the need for other funding is appropriate, it may recommend action to the County Board by resolution.

Enacted and approved this 26th day of May, 2026 at Wheaton, Illinois.

DEBORAH A. CONROY, CHAIR
DU PAGE COUNTY BOARD

Attest: _____

JEAN KACZMAREK, COUNTY CLERK

ATTACHMENT I

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE
DUPAGE ANIMAL FRIENDS PHASE II CAPITAL PROJECT GRANT
COMPANY 5000 – ACCOUNTING UNIT 1310
\$15,598

REVENUE

45000-0000 - Investment Income \$ 15,598

TOTAL ANTICIPATED REVENUE \$ 15,598

EXPENDITURES

CAPITAL

54010-0000 - Building Improvements \$ 15,598

TOTAL CAPITAL \$ 15,598

TOTAL ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION \$ 15,598