



DU PAGE COUNTY

Animal Services Committee

Final Summary

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

Tuesday, February 21, 2023

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, Paula Garcia, Krajewski and Sheila Rutledge

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were offered.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS - CHAIR KRAJEWSKI

No remarks were offered.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.A. [23-0854](#)

Animal Services Committee - Regular Meeting - Tuesday, January 17, 2023

Attachments: [Minutes Summary - Tuesday, January 17, 2023](#)

RESULT: APPROVED
MOVER: Paula Garcia
SECONDER: Sheila Rutledge

6. PROCUREMENT REQUISITIONS

6.A. [23-0711](#)

Recommendation for the approval of a contract with Imaging Systems, Inc. d/b/a Integrated Document Technologies (IDT), to provide monthly rabies certificate scanning/exporting/indexing services, for Animal Services, for the period March 16, 2023 through March 15, 2024, for a contract total amount not to exceed \$26,000.

Attachments: [IDT - Procurement Review Comprehensive Checklist \(PRCC\)](#)
[IDT - Pricing](#)
[IDT - Vendor Ethics](#)

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER:	Dawn DeSart
SECONDER:	Sheila Rutledge

6.B. [AS-P-0047-23](#)

Recommendation for the approval of a purchase order to Turner Vet Services LLC to provide mobile veterinary and backup veterinary services for the Animal Services Department for the period of March 1, 2023 to February 29, 2024, for a contract total amount not to exceed \$55,725.00. Professional services not subject to competitive bidding per 55 ILCS 5/5-1022(c) has been negotiated in accordance with 2-353(1)(b) of the DuPage County Purchasing Ordinance. All expenses paid for via grant from DuPage Animal Friends (5000-1310).

Attachments: [Turner Vet Services - Procurement Review Comprehensive Checklist \(PRCC\)](#)
[Turner Vet Services - Price List 2023-2024](#)
[Turner Vet Services - Vendor Ethics](#)

RESULT:	APPROVED AND SENT TO FINANCE
MOVER:	Paula Garcia
SECONDER:	Dawn DeSart

6.C. [23-0721](#)

Decrease and close expired Animal Services contract with Von Waldau, Jessica L (5401-0001-SERV) for high-volume spay/neuter and outreach veterinary services for rescue partners and the public; and backup veterinary services for Animal Services.

Attachments: [5401 VON WALDAU CO#4 decrease and close contract](#)

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Paula Garcia
SECONDER:	Cynthia Cronin Cahill

6.D. [23-0720](#)

Decrease and close expired Animal Services contract with Butler Animal Health Holding (5414-0001-SERV) for veterinary pharmaceuticals and medical supplies for Animal Services.

Attachments: [5414 Butler Covetrus CO#3 decrease and close contract](#)

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Paula Garcia

SECONDER: Sheila Rutledge

7. AUTHORIZATION TO TRAVEL

7.A. [23-0719](#)

Education and Community Engagement Coordinator Travel to the Association of Professional Humane Educators National Conference in Minneapolis, MN from April 19, 2023 - April 22, 2023. Expenses to include registration, mileage, tolls, lodging, miscellaneous expenses, and per diem for the estimated total amount of \$1,492.00. Funded via unrestricted grant from DuPage Animal Friends (5000-1310).

Chair Krajewski inquired whether travel/education would be available for more staff. Laura indicated that she and Dr. Hanek are trying to be selective about when staff travel. Travel is dependent upon content to ensure it is worthwhile and what the budget will allow. She added that travel for our Humane Educator to attend the AHE Conference is funded by the DuPage Animal Friends (DAF) grant. Humane Educator Laura Winnie has been with Animal Services for just a few years. Laura came to us with an extensive background in education at museums but is relatively new to animal sheltering. With the shelter renovation we are hopeful that she will come back with enhanced knowledge in humane education for animal shelters and new creative ideas for potential programming.

Attachments: [L Winnie Travel Request - APHE Conference](#)
 [L Winnie Travel Request - APHE Conference Agenda](#)

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

8. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Laura thanked the IT department for the new website and the improvements that came with it. The new site is more visually appealing and offers greater accessibility. Laura Winnie played a big part in preparing Animal Services for the migration from the legacy site to the new website. This transition also pushed staff to implement other aspects of current shelter database software in an effort to increase efficiency when posting animals for adoption, and lost and found animals.

Laura asked committee members to save the date for the Volunteer Appreciation event to be held on Saturday, April 1st at the Carol Stream Park District. The evening will consist of appetizers, a presentation, fun activities, and great opportunities for face-to-face time with the hundreds of volunteers that help at the shelter and through foster care.

The very first Field Services one day workshop will be held on March 9th for local police departments. Topics to be covered include: animal law, community engagement, in-field return to owner, how to address community cat issues, and more. To provide incentive for each police department to send at least one representative, each agency that attends will receive one

microchip scanner, top-loading pet carrier, leashes, and other supplies courtesy of DAF. To-date 23 officers have registered representing 15 police departments. The workshop has been marketed to PDs with the help of Mayors and Managers, Police Chiefs Association, and DuPage County State's Attorney's office. Through our involvement with the Chicagoland Lifesaving Coalition we are able to partner with Best Friends Animal Society on this project and piggyback onto the same workshop being hosted at Cook County Animal Control on March 8th. We are hoping to walk away from this workshop with a better idea of what would be helpful to our PDs so that we can create future training opportunities.

Several animal-related bills have been filed in Springfield. Staff are in the process of reviewing each so that recommendations on position can be made for each bill. We will continue our push to prohibit the sale of puppy mill animals in pet stores. Laura stated that she has personally come to the committee with the many issues caused by pet stores that sell rabbits. One of the newly introduced bills addresses the prohibition of sales of rabbits in pet stores. There is also a ban against declawing cats on the list of new bills. Member Cronin-Cahill inquired whether these bills would fall under the County's legislative agenda. Member DeSart confirmed that they would.

Member DeSart added that Senator Linda Holmes has a bill pending that would tighten up the loose ends that pet stores are using to circumvent the current puppy mill ban that is allowing them to continue to offer dogs and cats for retail sale in Illinois pet stores. Chair Krajewski added that this "cleanup bill" includes language from the Department of Agriculture. However, members of the Republican Caucus, with the exception of Senators Chesney, S. Lewis, and Kern who are in support of the bill, are viewing this bill as Senator Holmes versus Furry Babies when this is not the case. Chair Krajewski stated that there is an opportunity to educate other Republican Caucus members that it is Department of Ag language that Senator Holmes used to construct the bill that would close the loophole.

Member Garcia asked for an update on the groundbreaking for the new shelter. Laura stated that the groundbreaking ceremony is still tentatively slated for late March pending a final walk-through meeting with the planning team. Member DeSart inquired after fundraising opportunities. Laura is looking into hard hats that can be shared with major capital campaign donors and auctioned off as a fundraiser. DAF is planning a fundraising gala for Fall 2023 with a possible VIP area where animals can be present. The last gala fundraiser took place in 2016.

Member DeSart asked about any unusual animals that have come in lately. Laura shared that the shelter continues to see a large number of big dogs, long-stay dogs, dog-reactive dogs, fearful dogs, etc. that draw on space, personnel, rescue and training resources. Laura expressed that it is staff's goal to find positive placement for as many animals that arrive at the shelter as possible. However, as the department that processes dog bites and dangerous/vicious dog declarations, we must also keep safety in mind and be responsible when it comes to deciding if/where to place animals. Laura added that we always encourage transparency and try to work with the community to educate on the challenges that Animal Services faces in finding positive outcomes. Sometimes we take a beating in doing so, but if it helps to educate the public and if it allows us to place an animal safely, it is worth it.

There was some discussion about dog training resources available to DCAS dogs. Laura provided a brief overview of the UnderDog to WonderDog program funded by DAF, and the Orange Paw/STAR volunteer programs. She also shared that there will be a large multi-purpose space in the new shelter, once renovation is completed, that will provide greater opportunities for volunteers to work with shelter dogs indoors when it is not favorable to do so outside. The current shelter provides limited to no options to work inside. Laura added that staff is always open to new partnerships with local dog trainers as long as the trainer(s) have completed formal training to become a dog trainer. Additionally, partner trainers must use and promote fear-free training methods, positive reward-based training techniques, and LIMA (Least Intrusive, Minimally Aversive) methodology. Animal Services is strongly against the use of aversive tools such as shock collars and prong collars.

Member Rutledge asked if Animal Services fields calls concerning equines. Laura stated that Animal Services will sometimes be contacted in cases of at-large equines and investigation of cruelty/neglect complaints involving horses and domestic farm animals. Officer Anderson completed Humane Investigator training and tested for Equine Investigator.

9. OLD BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

10. NEW BUSINESS

The following members made comment:

Member Cronin-Cahill thanked Laura for hosting a tour of the shelter for her and Member Galassi. She added that it was wonderful to see the whole facility and experience first-hand what Animal Services staff experiences on a daily basis.

11. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.