

Commission on Animal Care & Control
Minutes of November 19, 2015 Commission Meeting
To be submitted for review and approval at January 21, 2016 meeting

Commissioners Attending

Dr. Robyn Barbiere, The Anti-Cruelty Society
Cynthia Bathurst, Vice Chair, Safe Humane Chicago
Monique Moore-Hoffman, Volunteer
Frank Gallardo, Representative of DSS
Charleen Propsom, FCACC
Dave DeFuniak, Tree House Humane Society
Representative of CDPH
Paula Fasseas, PAWS Chicago
Wayne Gulliford, Chicago Police Department

Commissioners Absent

Also Attending

Ivan Capifali, Acting Executive Director, ACC
Angela Rayburn, Animal Placement Coordinator, ACC
Sue Cappello, Administrative Services Officer II, ACC
Arthur Hamilton, Shelter Manager
Dr. Sandra Newbury
Members of the public

Agenda Item #1: Determination of Quorum and Call to Order

C. Bathurst called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. in the Auditorium of the Animal Care Facility at 2741 S. Western Ave. Chicago. Quorum determined. To begin the meeting, the prepared agenda was reviewed.

Agenda Item #2: Minutes of Previous Meetings

Minutes from September meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved.

Agenda Item #3: Report of Chairperson

No Chairperson. Vice-Chair reported that the responses to public comments have not been completed but will be soon.

Agenda Item #4: Report of Executive Director

- Dr. Newbury presented a report on the new strain of Canine Influenza Virus (CIV) in the Chicago area, which affected owned animals as well as animals in shelters: In April 2015 a new strain of canine influenza was found in the Chicago area. This strain is similar to a strain found in Korea. The University of Wisconsin looked at a total of 10 shelters in the City and CACC was the last to test positive for the CIV. Through this research, it was found that dogs are shedding the virus for 21 days. Shelters are hard places to do research due to not having a controlled environment. Almost every dog will have clinical signs and be infected. How to control it – controlling exposure is key and resource investment is huge. Negative impact – increased length of stay, hold dogs longer. Chicago is the only City experiencing this. People in Chicago are being responsible so this strain has not left this area. A vaccine for dogs is about to be released: vaccines are killed virus vaccines so

each dog will need a booster and the vaccine will not become effective until 2 weeks after the second vaccine. PAWS and ACS are vaccinating with bordatella and still see CIV in their shelters.

- Acting Executive Director Ivan Capifali reported that Sandra Alfred retired; CACC is working to strengthen protocols that are in place and to remind employees to follow the rules; working with FCACC to host holiday off site adoption events to increase live outcomes; construction update - pavilions A&B are currently down with possible completion by end of January, roofing is complete, ventilation is being balanced with air intake, each pavilion has own air unit; adjusting holiday hours, open to public 12-4 as we have in the past.
- S. Cappello provided the vacancy report: 12 positions vacant to include: 1 Executive Director, 1 Assistant to the Executive Director, 4 AC Clerk-Hourly, 4 Animal Control Officers, 1 Veterinarian-Hourly, 1 Veterinarian. 7 new hires between Oct 1 & Nov 16 (5 AC Clerk-Hourly, 1 Sup Vet Asst, 1 ACAII).
- A. Rayburn reported that new volunteer orientations are still on hold & CACC will host a rescue day with Dr. Newbury on Dec 12th to speak about CIV and to incentivize pulls for that day.
- A. Hamilton presented CACC Stats. Intake still down about 17% with live outcomes up 71% compared to 70% last year. Cat live outcome was 39% last year and now up to 84%. Dramatic improvements on decreased intake, S/N in the communities. M. Diakhate reported that CACC assisted the Cook County Sheriff and CPD on a dog fighting bust with 13 dogs impounded as cruelty.

Agenda Item #5: City Agency Reports

5.1 Public Health Issues – Winding down West Nile – 16 positive with fatalities. Bats winding down.

5.2 Streets and Sanitation Report – numbers dropped for dead animal pick up per day. Protocol when pick up a deceased animal – two crews that recover DOA's from 311 calls – crew has microchip scanners and can notify the owner if pet was found DOA.

5.3 Chicago Police Department –Law enforcement handbook created by CPD in conjunction with CACC. Books will be distributed to CPD for reference shortly.

Agenda Item #6: Committee Reports

- Euthanasia Policy Committee – (CB, MMH, PF) Shelter Manager pulled together the SOP's and all protocols. Members will be notified of a meeting to review, expected in the first two weeks in December.
- Dangerous Dog Committee – Will get together in December regarding the 8 conditions (CB, MMH, RB, Mamadou). Will look at length of stay, care, and how cases are handled, yet still keeping the public safe. May touch base with the Department of Public Health regarding the 10 day observation.

Agenda Item #7: Other Business

- PF – PAWS will continue to focus on increased isolation at the new building next to the adoption center – 60-75 CIV's now, hard to get fosters without other dogs.
- CB – CACC will post FAQ's (answers to comments) on website under Commission Tab.
- CP – FCACC placed order for ID tag machine for CACC.
- MMH – cleaning protocol working at CACC – issue is with Cook County increasing supervision by CACC staff, watching cleaning video regularly.

- CB –CACC CIV protocol – Dr. Newbury would like to review what is happening with the cleaning protocol – a written communication to Volunteers, Rescues for what is being done at CACC regarding cleaning protocols is a PRIORITY
- CB – Safe Humane’s *A Ruff Road Home: The Court Case Dogs of Chicago* book launch tonight.

Agenda Item #8: New Business

- Establish the dates for 2016 (3rd Thursdays, every other month starting in January) – January 21, March 17, May 19, July 21, September 15, and November 17. Dates approved unanimously. All meetings will be held at CACC, 2741 South Western Ave., at 8:30 a.m. in the CACC Auditorium. The meeting will be 90 minutes to include at least 30 minutes for public comment.

Agenda Item #9: Public Comment and Announcements

- C. Bathurst will respond to the public comments.
- ESPOZ – 3rd attempt to get answers to question about emergency fire plan / CACC evacuation plan for staff, rescues, volunteers, animals: fire detectors, smoke alarms, account for individuals.
- BRAUMBERG – questions about transporting cats for rescues from CACC
- CHRISTENSEN –regarding donated collars and leashes for redemptions and possible redemption gift bag; suggest putting a tag on collar and putting on dog at CACC.
- TANEY –Keeping the pet in the home should be key for CACC. Implement intervention program to keep animals in the home. Chicago shelters should collaborate for free microchips to save more lives in Chicago.
- JAMILKOWSKI – Animal assessments. Do vets handle behavior assessments?
- CEMBER –offered to answer a behavior hotline to prevent intake.
- BOYLE –tighten up adoption screening, update the “do not adopt” list; and why are RTO’s not being neutered
- SPASATO – first time here, suggested format to speed up handling of comments and questions, asked to consider having an evening meeting for more public to attend
- LITTLEFIELD – AFSCME local 2912 – respect the employees at CACC so they don’t feel harassed or attacked
- BAX – Why are rescues sometimes only given until 7 a.m. – less than 12 hours’ notice – that cats are on the euth list?
- BURKE - CACC should promote special events, e.g., ADOPT A SHELTER CAT IN JUNE; special promotions should be allowed
- TOBAK – CACC needs more help and to be more welcoming to volunteers; why three-cat limit for transporters?
- ABRAHMSON –explain lower intake rates in your statistics, current procedures, intake prevention; can Volunteers and Rescues approach people in parking lot bringing in their animals to help?
- MADERAK – why are donated blankets thrown away instead of washed

CIV Q’s to Dr. Newbury

Jenny Jurcak – typical URI –medications on floor rather than ingested by dog
 RESPONSE – this is a department issue that is being worked on.

Katie Campbell – way that meds are given – donations of peanut butter, liver sausage suggested; recommendations for charting in meds.

RESPONSE – this is a department issue that is being worked on.

Monica Shibicky – under the best of circumstances we only have a few dogs available for adoption and are all on doxy, is this common in all shelters, or are we not doing something correctly?

RESPONSE - Dogs coming in have CIV – several measures to prevent – this shelter was making progress toward reducing respiratory disease with new protocols in place – new kennels will help with double sides, isolation will help – we are meeting with rescue groups asking them to take animals as soon as they can, don't be reactive. Cats can leave same day, take as soon as possible.

Susan Taney – what kind of procedures are in place for owned dogs (lost pets) transferred to a rescue.

RESPONSE - At this time, CACC contacts the rescue to return the pet.

Alex Shibicky – are dogs in G available to adopt or walk? Half the dogs have “do not walk” signs, why doesn't medical have time to give a rabies shot?

RESPONSE - some dogs come into shelter go straight into G, this is called open selection, pushed into G quickly, but the dogs are not yet assessed. Part of the assessment process is to give the rabies vaccine. Why is it taking so long? CACC is chronically understaffed and in Illinois, only a licensed Veterinarian can provide a rabies vaccine.

Arial Alexander – how long is the CIV dormant in the body and how do we know they don't have it?

RESPONSE – the infection starts at clinical signs – if we see the animal is sick, remove from the population and test.

Roxana Espoz – What instructions are provided to owners redeeming their dogs?

RESPONSE - CACC provides a hand out for RTO's and medical staff talks to them at the time of the redemption.

Ramona Griffin – I've been working with CIV and know that the clinical signs take 21 days. Can it mutate? can we get false positive?

RESPONSE – fundamental question, what is a false response? – we perform a PCR test to look for viral DNA, did we find viral DNA because of on someones' hand who collected the sample? We are trying to figure this out. Shelters are difficult places to sample, virus may mutate, can affect dog, cat, ferret, human differently? We watch and be careful. There may be other reasons that dogs shed for a long time. If we grow it, it can be infectious, sheds in weird ways, we don't have all the answers. We may need to increase the hold to 30 days to balance safety.

Alderman Waguespack – good to be here to see what happens. Take a look at new protocols and ordinances and help out.

Agenda Item #10: Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 10:37 a.m. Approved unanimously. Next meeting on January 21, 2016 at 8:30 a.m.