

APPROVED 5/11/23
MINUTES
Public Safety and Justice Committee
March 28, 2023
@ 1:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jennifer Groves Allison – Chairperson; Danny Phelan – Vice Chairperson; Brandy Bryant, Brian Elsasser, Nathan Hoerr, Rob Reneau, Steven Rieker, Sharon Williams
MEMBERS ABSENT:
OTHERS PRESENT: Scott Sorrel – County Administrator; Shauna Musselman – Assistant County Administrator; Jennie Cordis Boswell - State's Attorney's Office; Heather McCord – Chief Financial Officer; Gretchen Pearsall – County Administration; Jodi Noe – ETSB; Becky Spencer – PCAPS; Kevin Lowe – Public Defender's Office; Jamie Harwood – County Coroner; Gabe McLeod – Court Administration; Rachael Parker, Brooke Sommerville – County Clerk

Call to Order

Chairperson Groves Allison called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of February 28, 2023 was made by Dr. Blair and seconded by Ms. Bryant. The motion carried (8-0).

Informational Items / Reports / Other Minutes / Updates

- **Coroner Monthly Update**

Mr. Harwood updated the committee on 2022 data and statistics. He noted that 3,390 deaths were reported and 187 autopsies were completed in 2022. He also summarized autopsy costs increased in 2022 as more autopsies were performed. He stated that the office also saw increases in the number of accidental and overdose deaths over 2021, and death by homicide decreased over 2021 numbers.

- **ETSB**

Ms. Noe advised that Stark County Dispatch Center work will be re-bid due to increased costs. Ms. Groves Allison encouraged any interested committee members to take a tour of the dispatch center.

- **PCAPS Monthly Update**

Ms. Spencer advised that veterinary medical services provided by Brown Animal Hospital are anticipated to begin July 1st. She stated that an RFPs for the PCAPS mobile unit are due April 3, 2023.

- **Public Defender Report**

Mr. Lowe provided an update on the progress of the construction of the Public Defender's new office space.

Mr. Lowe recognized Stephanie Wisner, a contract attorney in the Juvenile Abuse and Neglect, and Juvenile Delinquency Courts, who will be leaving the Public Defender's Office at the end of April.

Resolutions

- Amendment to Chapter 5 of the Peoria County Code of Ordinances

A motion to approve was made by Mr. Elsasser and seconded by Mr. Reneau. Ms. Spencer advised that 56% of cats taken into the shelter in 2022 were humanely euthanized or passed away. She stated that the requested Ordinance amendments would allow for trap, neuter, vaccination, and return of undomesticated cats to their community. She commented that the change to the Ordinance would lower the euthanasia rate, reduce the reproduction rate, and lead to a safer and healthier community. She noted that the Illinois Animal Control Act includes similar language related to trap, neuter, vaccinate, and return of cats.

The motion to approve carried (8-0).

- Best Friends Animal Society grant award

A motion to approve was made by Ms. Bryant and seconded by Ms. Williams. Ms. Spencer advised that a \$50,000.00 grant from Best Friends Animal Society has been awarded to PCAPS and will be utilized for the purchase of a mobile spay/neuter unit.

The motion to approve carried (8-0).

- Walmart Community Grants Teams grant award

A motion to approve was made by Ms. Bryant and seconded by Mr. Hoerr. Ms. Spencer advised that \$250.00 in grant money from Walmart Community Grants Teams has been awarded to PCAPS and will be utilized for supplies associated with the mobile spay/neuter unit.

The motion to approve carried (8-0).

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Miscellaneous

None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Groves Allison at 2:30 p.m.

Recorded and Transcribed by: Jan Kleffman