

**Minutes**  
**Iowa County Humane Society**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Monday, April 25, 2011**

Members Present: Treasurer Todd Novak, Secretary: Mary  
Whitmar, Carrie Baumhover

Others Present: Shelter Director Teresa Duerst, Outreach Director Cheri Philmore

Absent: Mike Wagner

Board meeting called to order by Todd Novak at 6:30p.m.

**Minutes**

Secretary Mary Whitmar noted that the incorrect minutes had been printed inadvertently for tonight's meeting. Mona Thoreson noted an error in the public comment section where it stated that Teresa had spoken with Terri Davis and Mona regarding animal health issues. Mona stated that she had not been contacted. Mary will amend the minutes. Motion was made by Carrie to accept the minutes with the noted correction. Motion seconded by Mary, motion carried.

**Board Appointment**

Rhonda Martin resigned in April of last year without completing her term on the board leaving a vacant seat. At that time the ICHS was in the process of resolving a debt with the IRS and was advised by the IRS not to fill the seat until the matter was settled. The debt was settled in December and the end of February or early March we received clearance to fill the position. The board appointed Dawn Judd to fill out the remaining term. Dawn has been involved with ICHS for many years in many capacities. She is the chairperson for the Annual Artists to the Rescue event and is involved with numerous other fundraising events including the Quadrapedal and Silent Auction. The board welcomes Dawn and is privileged to have her with us. There were questions from Sharon Shea regarding policy for appointments and the board clarified. There will be vacancies on the board for the Annual Meeting in 2012 and the board referred the public to the by-laws for information on the election process.

**Outreach Directors Report**

Please see the attached report.

Cheri reports a total of 9 Humane Calls in March, three of which were rechecks and six of which were new cases.

Entries for the Quadrapedal are at \$7,221.72 down slightly from last year perhaps due to the inclement weather we've been having and perhaps due to the increase in gas prices since the Quadrapedal draws many riders from out of state.

Final totals for Paws for a Cause are in at \$3574.99 and the Easter Bake Sale raised \$800.02, special thanks to Janice Olson for organizing this event.

**Upcoming Events**

♦ **Quadrapedal – May 1<sup>st</sup> Dodgeville**

♦ **Spring Plant Sale scheduled for May 14<sup>th</sup> and May 28<sup>th</sup> at ICHS Shelter**

♦ **New Event!!! Benefit concert by Celia at the Mineral Point Opera House, May 13, 2011**

**Tickets are available at 43/90 North Earth Spring Green, Berget's Jewelers in Mineral Point, Bear and Bee and Iowa County Humane Society in Dodgeville See the website or contact Cheri for more**

**Information**

#### **Upcoming outreach/educational events:**

- ◆ **Channel 15 Pet of the week ~ May 9th**
- ◆ **Launch of Paws and Claws University continuing education seminars at ICHS**
  - ~ monthly seminars dealing with timely animal topics
  - ~ **First seminar is “Bully for You-De-mystifying the Bully Breeds”**
    - Sunday, May 22, from 1 to 3 pm.**
- ◆ **Mounds Dog Fest June 12<sup>th</sup> at Angel Park in Sun Prairie**

#### **Operations Director Report**

Report is attached.

We currently have 74 cats in the shelter and 11 in foster care. We have 36 dogs in shelter and 10 in foster care.

Pet Smart adoptions: We adopted out 4 cats and 1 dog in April. Next adoption day is April 30<sup>th</sup> which is an Adopt-A –Thon day at PetSmart.

Teresa is very happy to report that Misty a 10 year old Shih Tzu mix who had been in the shelter system since August of 2009 and in foster care for 5 months and then returned has now been adopted. Also our resident rabbit has been adopted!

Also Cider who was being fostered at Alisha’s Best Friends has been adopted and Alisha is ready to take another dog.

Pam Richardson and Sharon Shea presented a Dog Handling Class to the staff and volunteers where they presented techniques and equipment for handling dogs safely and introduced training techniques for our shelter dogs. Several of the ideas have been implemented at the shelter and it is hoped that further trainings can be set up.

#### **Financial Report**

Reports are attached.

Todd reports that donations have slowed way down. We currently have \$24,649.23 in the checking account with \$47,600.21 in outstanding bills for the renovation expenses. Todd explained that at the time we did the budgeting for the renovations we were under the impression that the very generous donors of the \$100,000 would be donating it all at one time. Due to changes in their circumstances the money will now be coming in installments. This has affected our ability to pay off the renovations promptly. All of the contractors and businesses that we worked with have been wonderful about taking payments however it is crucial to the future of ICHS to get this debt paid off so that we can begin to pursue our Capitol Campaign to raise money to purchase the building. The owner has been in contact with Todd and he is very anxious to sell. ICHS has a three year lease with an option to purchase each of the three years however the asking price increases with each year so the sooner we can get it purchased the better. The board along with Cheri has been brainstorming ways to bring in income over the next few months since the summer is a consistently slow time for donations.

Plans are in the works for a major donor recognition event, a business night for local businesses to invite them in to see what we have going on and tour the new facility and a chicken BBQ is in the planning stages.

The Board welcomes fundraising ideas as well as volunteers to implement them.

#### **Mission Statement**

A proposed change to the mission statement was presented at the March board meeting and placed on the website for a month for people to review and give feedback. None was received however when it came to being approved by the board this evening the public requested more time to review it. It was decided to table the vote until next month.

#### **Comments from the Public**

The board would like to recognize and thank the public that attended the meeting.

The board began by addressing the public comments from the March board meeting as follows:

Updates on the items discussed during last month's Public Comments.

### Notes on Issues from March Meeting

1. Not taking advantage of spay/neuter offer from Vet- Teresa spoke with the vet. He was not upset about this and did not recall making any complaint about it to anyone but said he may have mentioned it. Teresa explained why we have not had animals there for every opportunity and that we would be taking advantage of the service soon.
2. Dogs needing more exercise. The area for walking dogs has been expanded to give them more green space.
3. Plastic Bags not being eco-friendly. Information on where biodegradable bags can be purchased by those volunteers or staff who wish to use them has been posted at the shelter. At this time the ICHS can not afford to supply them.
4. Collecting poop at end of day versus picking it up while walking the dogs. Dr. Deb gave this matter some thought and she and Teresa were in agreement that this is not a good idea. There is too much opportunity for dogs to spread disease by walking through the feces of other dogs. It is also better to collect samples immediately so that if a dog has an issue it can be documented and addressed promptly.
5. Addressing the issue of how to handle problem dogs Sharon Shea made arrangements with dog trainer Pam Richardson to come in and do three training sessions for staff and volunteers on how to handle shelter dogs under various conditions. All three sessions have been completed.

The floor was opened and comments were heard from several of those in attendance. Comments were heard from Sharon Shea, Town of Eden, Terri Davis, Wyoming Township, Fran Fritsch, Ridgeway, Bonnie Zimmerman, Barneveld and Alisha Gerber, Best of Friends Dodgeville, Janice Olson, Avoca and Emily Schuman of Dodgeville.

The discussion included questions regarding licensing protocol and enforcement, how the law reads regarding the shooting of other people's animals on your property, several fundraising ideas including Dawn Judd presenting some samples of laser woodworking done by a friend in the shape of the ICHS logo and possibilities of making it into a fundraising option. Ideas were for key chains, dog tags, Christmas ornaments, coasters, images of peoples pets etc. Dawn will look further into potential costs for various ideas. The idea of putting a soda machine on the premises was brought up by Sharon Shea as well as having a resale shop at the shelter. Cheri responded that the fundraising committee has been working on this idea for several months and will continue to pursue it. Terri Davis asked about the time table for the outdoor kennels and a group of volunteers from Cummins Emissions in Mineral Point is going to do the whole project. The projected completion will be in mid May.

Motion was made to go into closed session by Mary and seconded by Carrie. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Mary to come out of closed session and seconded by Carrie. Motion Carried.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Carrie, Seconded by Mary. Motion carried. The next regular meeting of the board will be on Monday, May 23th at 6:30 at the Iowa County Humane Society meeting room.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Whitmar  
ICHS Board Secretary