

**Minutes of the Franklin County Humane Society Board
By Teleconference
April 23, 2020**

Board Members participating: Fred Deaton, Billie Dollins, Leslie Driskell, Matt Freire, Leo Haggerty, John Hibbard, Keeuna King, Sam Marcus, Jaime Rice, Ray Smith, Rodney Williams

Officers participating: Cheryl Broyles, Diana Taylor

Staff participating: Kerry Lowary, Terri Sorrell, Jean Unglaub

Volunteer participating: Bill Klier

The meeting convened by telephone at 5:30 p.m.

President's Report (Sam Marcus)

- Report attached as part of record.
- On a motion by Fred Deaton, seconded by Ray Smith, the minutes of the March 26, 2020, meeting were approved without objection.
- Two measures were approved by electronic voting prior to the meeting:
 - The FCHS application for a Paycheck Protection Program loan in the amount of \$49,368.38; FCHS received \$47,800. The loan is forgivable as long as 75% is used for payroll and the balance is used for rent and utilities. Appreciation was expressed to Billie Dollins and personnel at Community Trust Bank for helping secure the PPP loan.
 - The FCHS application for a \$50,000 ASPCA emergency relief grant; no timeline was provided, and there has been no word on whether the grant has been awarded.
- Rich Rosen's decision to reinstate his \$500,000 pledge for the new shelter was announced in the March 31, 2020, Frankfort State Journal. FCHS had received the funds in February. This commitment is extremely important for the new shelter and appreciation was expressed to Mr. Rosen.
- The FCHS three-year contract with the City of Frankfort expires June 30. If the board does not act, the contract will automatically renew for another three years. Points of discussion included:
 - It would be difficult to negotiate a new contract with an increase given the circumstances of the COVID-19 shutdown and subsequent public revenue decline.
 - A one-year extension at the current amount would let FCHS revisit the issue in the spring of 2021.
 - There have been no contract changes since 2014, when the amount increased from \$55,000 to \$65,000; FCHS had asked for \$75,000 at that time. The issue is that FCHS currently provides more than \$100,000 worth of services for the city.
 - At the very least, if FCHS does not seek an increase right away and approves a one-year extension, it will request more equitable compensation based on current data and information at the end of that year.
 - Billie Dollins moved, and Rodney Williams seconded, to extend the contract through June 30, 2021, for \$65,000. The motion passed without objection.

Committee Reports

Capital Campaign (John Hibbard)

- Letters will be mailed to small donors, mid-size donors and corporate donors. Bill Klier is helping coordinate that.
- The tentative date for the kickoff is the annual meeting, which will be June 21 or June 28. The timing depends on the current environment and what changes occur regarding the need to quarantine.
- A brochure should be finished within the next two weeks. It is to be emailed to potential donors beginning June 1.
- Randy Smith is reviewing the Chamber list and businesses in Frankfort and Franklin County and is organizing those into a donor group.
- The value of the New Building Fund as of 3/27/2020 was \$1,133,246.28; as of 4/22/2020, it was \$1,165,162.44 for a gain of almost \$32,000.
- Overall, FCHS investments are down about 10.6%. After the changes approved at the last meeting, the investments are now 82% income and 18% equity. A majority of current holdings is in CDs.
- President Marcus noted that FCHS should need to raise \$1.6 million for the New Building Fund through the capital campaign.
- There was a discussion regarding whether a solicitation for the capital campaign could be mailed with the membership letter. Membership manager Betsy Kennedy will be asked to join the next telephone meeting of the Capital Campaign committee.

Shelter Manager's Report (Kerry Lowary)

- Shelter stats attached as part of record.
- The Franklin County Sheriff's Department executed a search warrant during which 38 dogs were seized with the approval of County Attorney Rick Sparks. The dogs had no food or water; several were confined with heavy chains. At the time of the seizure the FCHS shelter dog census was 14; three of those were bite quarantined and euthanized. Assistance with the seizure was provided by the Woodford Humane Society and the Anderson Humane Society; Woodford transported 22 dogs from the seizure site to the FCHS shelter; Anderson took four dogs to its facility. The Tin Wolf Inn agreed to board nine dogs that had already been at the shelter. Many of the dogs have medical issues, including heartworms, dental, bone infection, skin issues and others. Addressing the dogs' medical conditions is the priority; they also need to be assessed behaviorally to find whether they are safe to foster. This could be a long-term situation and a significant unplanned expense; more than \$5,000 in donations have been received since the newspaper article on the situation was published. The contract with county does not allow for additional payments for medical services for animals that are brought in in groups.
- A question arose about how stray dogs are dealt with. The protocol at this time is, if someone calls who has found a dog, they are encouraged to help find the owner of the animal as the shelter is trying to limit intakes to an emergency situation where the dog is injured, sick or threatening. People may bring an animal to the shelter to be scanned.
- The governor's office has approved veterinary clinics resuming non-essential procedures as long as social distancing guidelines are followed. FCHS has started working toward resuming and did 12 surgeries on April 23. All spay/neuter surgeries have been moved to the former health department building and have been conducted, so the animals can be adopted. Surgeries on some TNR cats will resume; there is a six-week backlog that should be cleared by the end of May. No new appointments are being scheduled at this time and no announcements are being made about the resumption of spay/neuter surgeries until the backlog is decreased.
- One grant application for \$2,500 is pending. FCHS also will apply to ASPCA and Pet Smart Charities for small emergency grants.

Volunteers (Jean Unglaub)

- There were no activities to report.

Thrift Store (Terri Sorrel)

- Report attached as part of record.
- During the 11 business days the store was open, item sales totaled \$4,827.32; regular donations were \$235.37 and donations to the building fund totaled \$22.02.

Membership (Betsy Kennedy)

- Report included as part of record.

Treasurer's Report (Cheryl Broyles)

- Report included as part of record.
- The report was approved without objection on a motion by Billie Dollins, second by Leslie Driskell.

Nominating Committee (Fred Deaton)

- Report included as part of record.
- For terms beginning July 1, 2020, the recommendations are:
 - John Hibbard and Ray Smith have agreed to serve another term.
 - The nominating committee has recommended that the application of Randy Smith be approved for the vacant position.
- The nominations report will be voted on at the May meeting.

New Business -- Bylaws Amendment (Fred Deaton)

- A bylaws amendment distributed by email to board members would remove term limits for the president and vice president by deleting two sentences establishing the limits.
- Fred Deaton moved, and Ray Smith seconded, to delete those sentences from the bylaws.
- President Marcus abstained; Vice President Hibbard had left the teleconference. The motion was approved without objection, and the bylaws will be amended accordingly.

A discussion addressed recent reports about house cats testing positive for COVID-19. Kerry Lowary noted that information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports no evidence that humans can contract COVID-19 from domestic cats and dogs but that some pets, especially ferrets, can contract the virus if they are close to infected people. The guidelines are that individuals who have the virus should isolate themselves from their pets. This information will be posted on the FCHS Facebook page.

The board voted to convene in executive session at 7:22 p.m.

The executive session concluded at 7:34 p.m. A motion by Leslie Driskell, seconded by Fred Deaton, to provide bonuses for the shelter manager and staff was approved without opposition.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.