The meeting was called to order at 9:03 am.

Committee members present: Amy Cesich, Lynn Cullick, Matt Prochaska and John Purcell
Others present: Anna Payton, Laura Pawson, and Jeff Wilkins
Absent: Elizabeth Flowers

Committee approved the agenda for the meeting.

Anna presented the census log to the committee for December and thus far for January. Animal Control had an intake of 34 dogs in December with a current count of 32, including 6 puppies. Animal Control had an intake of 25 cats in December with a current count of 25 cats which includes 2 kittens and 1 cat at Go Dog Go.

Laura presented the County bite report to the committee for December. There were a total of 16 bites reported with 13 dog bites and 3 cat bites. Seven of the sixteen bites was a case where the owner or family member was bitten. There was 1 cat euthanized in the month of December due to behavior. Two kittens passed away at the shelter due to illness.

Anna presented the operations report to the committee. She discussed two large ongoing investigations. One involves an owner with 4 dogs being kept outside in poor condition; thin, inadequate shelter, lack of food and water, and unclean living conditions. Animal Control already obtained a warrant to remove a deceased dog from the property and will continue to collect evidence and work with the State’s Attorney’s office to press charges. Laura discussed the other investigation which involves an owner of several horses that are not being fed, being provided with water, or clean living conditions. This owner has previous history of neglecting horses and currently has a case pending in another county. Laura explained that she is also collecting evidence and working with the State’s Attorney’s office in order to press charges.

Anna then mentioned that she was having a volunteer orientation that evening. She explained that she holds volunteer orientations once a month and encouraged the committee members to attend one sometime. She then informed the committee that Animal Control had 158 visitors in the month of December that came into view the adoptable animals. In addition, she had selected a candidate to fill the open kennel position and is currently finalizing the new hire paperwork.

Anna discussed in detail the proposed Spay/Neuter program for low income residents in Kendall County. She explained that residents must go through Animal Control in order to qualify. They would have to provide their LINK card to prove eligibility, a copy of their Driver’s license or State ID to prove current
residency in Kendall County, and a current rabies certificate in their name for their dog or cat to prove ownership. Anna stated that $10,000 had already been approved for this fiscal year’s budget for this program. The money for the program comes from the differential in the fee for rabies tags between altered and intact animals. This money goes into the County Animal Population Fund. The money in this fund can only be used for spay/neutering of Animal Control’s animals or for spay/neutering low income residents animals. Anna also stated that in this first year, Countryside Vet Clinic would be the vet hospital for this program but that she would like that to expand to having it with multiple clinics in the future. She also provided what the costs would be for Animal Control for the program. The committee discussed the program in length. John requested that Anna send the committee what the income qualifications were to get a LINK card and Anna promised to do so. Overall the committee was very supportive of this program.

Matt left the meeting at 9:55 am.

Jeff presented the accounting report. He went through the numbers and stated that Animal Control was down a little bit compared to this month last year. He did not feel this was anything to be concerned with at the moment. The committee approved the payment of the bills.

The committee approved to put the Spay/Neuter program for low income residents on the agenda for the first board meeting in February.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 am.

Respectfully submitted by Anna Payton