**Sedgwick County Animal Care Advisory Board Meeting**

Animal Control
*Sedgwick County Health Department*
1015 Stillwell, Wichita, KS 67213 - www.sedgwickcounty.org - TEL: 316-660-7078 - FAX: 316-383-7553

Nika Orebaugh, Animal Control Supervisor

Program Supervisor

**Of July 14, 2022**

**Attendance:**

**Advisory Board**

**Members**- Susan Erlenwein, Simone Ward, Shelley Seidl, Debbie Miller, Shelley Duncan and Janna Hays.

**Absent-** Dr. Julie Evans, Shanti Mikolajczyk and Patricia Miller

**Public**- None

**Sedgwick County Staff**- Chris Steward, Deputy Health Director

**1. Old Business:**

**A. Minutes:** Discussion and approval of June 9, 2022 minutes. Moved and seconded by Shelley Duncan and Shelley Seidl. Approved by majority vote.

**B.** **Proposed Sedgwick County Animal Shelter:** Shelley Duncan handed out the results of her contacts with other communities that provide shelters. She reviewed the information and noted the dog and cat capacity information she had received so far. Discussion was held on the current hoarding case and how desperately a new shelter is needed to accommodate these emergency situations. The discussion continued into the New Business section of this meeting.

**2.** **New Business:**

**A.** **Spay & Neuter Clinics:** Debbie Miller reiterated that a main reason for the current shelter and rescue groups being at capacity is the fact that many animals are not spayed or neutered. Discussion was held on how the local shelter and the non-profit organizations are at capacity. A spay and neuter clinic can help in lowering this over-population problem our community is experiencing. Discussions were held on having that capability at a new Sedgwick County Shelter. In addition to that, other services could be offered that could help offset operating costs, such as cremation. The Board discussed how animals are known to help in many mental health situations, and perhaps a new shelter could partner with other organizations in fulfilling local needs. Susan mentioned that we should develop an Animal Outreach Program and change the name from shelter to Animal Outreach Facility since we wish to provide many services. She suggested that we develop a comprehensive booklet detailing upgraded/new programs to support the animal shelter proposal. Everyone agreed to this and that we would work on these proposals at our next meeting.

**3. Staff Update-** Chris Steward attended the start of our meeting to announce that all of the Animal Control Staff were currently involved in a hoarding case in the southeast part of the county. They were asking the Board if anyone knew of locations for animals to be taken to temporarily. Board members were only aware of non-profit organizations that were already known by staff. Debbie Miller brought up that the local shelter has emergency space set aside and that the county should ask if that is available for this emergency. Chris said that staff had removed 39 cats and left 20. There were also two dogs and one pig.

**4. Public –**None

**5. Adjournment –** The Board agreed to adjourn at 8:08 PM.