**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 March 14, 2024**

**Attendance:**

**Advisory Board: Members Present** - Susan Erlenwein, Simone Ward, Janna Hays, Dr. Julie Evans, Shanti Mikolajczyk, Susan Lentz, and Erika Lovett

**Members Absent –**Shelley Duncan and Kylee Wallentine

**Public** – Troy Hertel, Becky Hertel, and James Heier with KSN

**Sedgwick County Staff** –Nika Orebaugh and Dina Ingram

**1.** **New Business:**

**A.** **Board Members:** Susan Erlenwein mentioned that since a new Board member was present, we should have introductions of names and who we represent. Introductions were made. She also passed out a copy of the Animal Care Advisory Board Bylaws and reviewed them.

**B.** **Minutes:** Discussion and approval of February 15, 2024 minutes. Approval of the minutes was moved by Simone Ward and seconded by Susan Lentz. Motion was approved by majority vote.

**C. Report on KDA developments and how they will affect Sedgwick County operations:** Nika Orebaugh brought the Board up-to-date on recent developments in the Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA). K.S.A. 47-624 was established in 1911 and had seven amendments since then. This law prohibits any person that possess any domestic animal affected by a contagious or infectious disease, to knowing sell, ship, drive, trade or give away such animal. K.S.A. 47-635 was also established in 1911 and had seven amendments since then. This law establishes that several articles, including 47-624, pertains to contagious or infectious diseases among all kinds of domestic animals. The long list of animals included dogs, cats, birds and ferrets. These laws have been recently discussed by KDA referencing a 2019 outbreak of kennel cough at a shelter that could not isolate the infected dogs. There have been several meetings that discussed the transfer of animals from shelters to veterinarians and non-profits. There is confusion about what is allowed and will there be an increase in euthanasians due to this. Nika will provide updated information to the Board at our next meeting.

**2. Old Business:**

**A. Proposed Sedgwick County Animal Shelter:** Susan Erlenwein noted that at our last meeting she brought up concerns about if an Advisory Board could also be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. She talked to the County head attorney and he said “no”. We currently have members who are also members of non-profit organizations. A member could start a new non-profit to receive donations and work toward a new shelter as part of that organization.

**3. Staff Update-** Nika reviewed some upcoming events in May, including a Neighborhood Resource Fair. She mentioned a staff shortage right now due to health issues.

**4. Public –** Becky Hertel asked Nika about a comment she made about a veterinarian in Lawrence who has a treatment for dogs with parvo. Nika will provide her with that information.

**5. Adjournment –** The Board agreed to adjourn at 7:50PM.