

Regional Animal Control District

Serving the Towns of
Lebanon, Franklin, Bozrah, Lisbon & Sprague

Mailing Address: 1 Main St., P.O. Box 677, Sprague, CT 06330 Emergency Calls: 800.236-1987
Pound Address: 34 Goshen Hill Road, Lebanon, CT 06249 Routine Calls: 860.642-6379

Regional Animal Control District Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
Thursday,
January 26th, 2012 – 10:30AM
Lebanon Town Hall Conference Room

MINUTES

- 1) Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by Richard Matters at 10:30 AM. All members were in attendance.
- 2) Recognition of Visitors - One
- 3) Additions to agenda
Moved by Matters, seconded by Okonuk to add Public Comment to the agenda.
Vote: Yes, unanimous
- 4) Minutes
Moved by Osten, seconded by Sparkman to approve the minutes of the December 22, 2011 regular meeting as presented. Vote: Yes, unanimous
- 5) Treasurer's Report
Cathy Osten provided details of running expenses and reported all line items are well within budget. **Moved by Ballinger, seconded by Sparkman to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Vote: Yes, unanimous**
- 6) Payment of Bills
No action needed.
- 7) ACO Activity Report
Rich reported there were 2 weekend, 1 day and 1 night calls to ACO and 31 calls to Edward's Answering Service resulting in only four calls to ACO.
- 8) ACO Report
ACO Michael Murphy got called out of state this weekend due to the sudden serious illness of a relative. No report available.
- 9) Discuss and act on changes to FY 2011-12 budget.
No action needed.
- 10) Discuss and act on FY 2012-13 budget.
 - a. Bill Ballinger is challenging the DOH population shown for Bozrah as he feels it is too high. Shows 15 additional people – he will contest with Uncas Health District.

- b. Selectmen discussed that the original formation of Regional District was to prevent Selectmen from having to cover for the ACO and they are feeling somewhat frustrated at having the ACO away (for an emergency) and are still expected to cover that vacancy. Members felt another on-call person should be hired or we should contract out services. Cathy offered to contact NECOGG re assisting us with on-call help during this emergency absence. It was discussed yet again that the ACOs need to do better follow up on unlicensed dogs—perhaps pay them fee (\$ in budget) for that task.
- c. Approximately \$1,200 has been paid by Lisbon on the Rex Case. Proposed budget shows \$1,500 for legal—if not needed, Tom recommends money goes to funds within our budget.

Moved by Osten, seconded by Okonuk that effective 7/1/12, all legal expenses associated with the Regional Animal Control District be paid from the RAC budget. Vote: Yes, unanimous

Moved by Osten, seconded by Sparkman to contract out immediately for an absent ACO, with Osten to contact NECOG re same. Vote: Yes, unanimous

- d. Cathy wants an understanding as to what expenses at the Regional Pound are the responsibility of the RAC. Concrete changes to the building must be paid by Lebanon. Joyce explained that the town's handyman does a lot of the repairs to building and is paid through Lebanon. She agrees that any improvement to the physical building should be borne by the landlord (Lebanon) but other improvements (install of electric upgrade for washer/dryer) is above and beyond the norm. Joyce will prepare a clearly defined list of what repairs will be done by the handyman, what expenses should be the responsibility of the town of Lebanon, and what expenses should belong to the RAC.

Moved by Osten, seconded by Sparkman to approve up to half of the electric bill for the Electrician for the installation of the washer/dryer, with the other half to be the responsibility of the town of Lebanon. Vote: Yes, unanimous

- d. **Moved by Osten, seconded by Sparkman to approve the FY 2012-13 Budget as presented, amended by adding an additional \$1,000 for additional ACO coverage. Vote: Yes, unanimous**

- 11) Development of a face book page for the pound.
Denise and Mike Murphy will create Facebook page for the Pound which will allow no cost postings of dogs to be adopted. All Selectmen agreed that Denise will handle.
- 12) Public Comment
Audience member felt that the ACO should attend the monthly meetings and the Selectmen agreed.
- 13) Adjournment
Moved by Sparkman, seconded by Ballinger to adjourn the meeting at 11:05AM. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce R. Okonuk, Secretary

