

## PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

**DATE OF MEETING:** April 13, 2023 at 5:31 p.m. County Building

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Megan Myers – Chair, Claro Carter – Vice Chair, Tom Farris, John Werts and Melonie Tilley. Also present, Dee Dee Rentmeister, County Administrator.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

### **SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:**

- No one to address the committee.
- Motion by Carter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Werts to approve last month's minutes. Voice vote, motion carried.
- Motion by Tilley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carter to approve the claims. Voice vote, motion carried.
- Myers informed committee that the current animal control ordinance doesn't address collars and identification tags requirements for dogs. Would like to revise Chapter 90 of the County Code to add two new sections addressing collars and identification tags for dogs. After review of the proposed new sections, a motion was made by Tilley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Farris to recommend to the full board to add two new sections to Chapter 90 of the County Code – Animal Control as follows:
  - §90.xxx COLLAR REQUIRED. No person shall own, possess, keep, maintain, or harbor any dog without providing the dog with a collar to be worn at all times.
  - §90.xxx IDENTIFICATION TAG REQUIRED. All dogs shall have affixed to their collars or harness an identification tag stating the owner's name, current address, and telephone number.Motion carried.
- Discussion on changing the weekend/holiday cleaner agreement. Myers has contacted J&M Critter Care about cleaning the shelter on weekends and holidays and after hours to assist with letting dogs out if needed. Cost would be \$30/hour. When an office/kennel assistant is hired would only need someone on Sundays and holidays. Motion by Werts, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Farris to recommend to the full board to contract with J&M Critter Care for cleaning on Sundays, holidays and assist in evenings if needed for \$30.00 an hour. Voice vote, motion carried.
- Myers explained that until someone is hired at the shelter non-critical animal control services will be reduced. The county has no obligation to take feral cats and the shelter will not be taking them.
- Discussion on possibly raising some of the shelter fees. Myers will put together a spreadsheet showing current fees charged and what the latest cost study shows that the county can charge and will address next month.
- Motion by Tilley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Farris to adjourn at 6:06 p.m. Voice vote, motion carried.

### **COMMITTEE ACTION:**

Approve last month's minutes.

Approve the claims.

Recommend to the full board to add two new sections to Chapter 90 of the County Code – Animal Control as follows:

- §90.xxx COLLAR REQUIRED. No person shall own, possess, keep, maintain or harbor any dog without providing the dog with a collar to be worn at all times.
- §90.xxx IDENTIFICATION TAG REQUIRED. All dogs shall have affixed to their collars or harness an identification tag stating the owner's name, current address and telephone number.

Recommend to the full board to contract with J&M Critter Care for cleaning on Sundays, holidays and assist in evenings if needed for \$30.00 an hour.

**RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE FULL BOARD:**

Recommend to the full board to add two new sections to Chapter 90 of the County Code – Animal Control as follows:

- §90.xxx COLLAR REQUIRED. No person shall own, possess, keep, maintain, or harbor any dog without providing the dog with a collar to be worn at all times.
- §90.xxx IDENTIFICATION TAG REQUIRED. All dogs shall have affixed to their collars or harness an identification tag stating the owner's name, current address and telephone number.

Recommend to the full board to contract with J&M Critter Care for cleaning on Sundays, holidays and assist in evenings if needed for \$30.00 an hour.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: May 11, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.**

**AGENDA FOR THE  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Date and Time of Meeting: April 13, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. County Building

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Persons Wishing to Address the Committee (If requesting action, also list below in section three)
  - a.
3. Items for Discussion and Possible Action
  - a. Approve last month's minutes
  - b. Approve claims
  - c. Create sections in Chapter 90 to include Collar required and Identification tag required for dogs
  - d. Changing weekend/holiday cleaner position
  - e. Reducing certain non-critical animal control services due to lack of staff, ie. trapping feral cats
  - f. Shelter fees
4. Items for Discussion Only (No Action Requested)
  - a.
  - b.
5. Closed Session
  - a.
6. Motion to adjourn

Posted: April 10, 2023 at 1:10 p.m.

By: Dee Dee Rentmeister

J&M Critter Care  
5836 State Highway 48  
Weldon, IL 61882  
Phone (217) 891-2149  
e-mail: [jmccrittercare@gmail.com](mailto:jmccrittercare@gmail.com)  
Pet Sitting \* J&M Critter Care ([jmccrittercare.com](http://jmccrittercare.com))



My name is Marikay and my husband, James, and I started this company to bring a much needed service to the area I grew up in. I graduated Highschool at Deland-Weldon and then obtained my bachelor's degree in Zoology at SIUC. During college I worked at several veterinary clinics and animal care boarding facilities. I was fortunate enough to get my first zoo job right after graduation at a smaller zoo here in central Illinois. After a year, and with aspirations to work with different animals I was hired at a large zoo in Texas. I spent 13 years and had an amazing time working with a very diverse collection of animals. I was able to work my way up in a very competitive field to managing a very dynamic department. While in Texas I also worked as a civilian contractor caring for military working dogs.

I have over 20 years of paid animal experience including animal care, animal training, animal transport, and supervising staff in the care of exotic animals. Initially, I did most of the pet sitting myself but as the business has grown we have added staff. We have a dedication to quality animal care and to the community and we hope you will let us assist you with you animal care needs.

Why hire J&M Critter Care?

We have experience with a wide variety of animals. The business is fully insured to protect you, your home and us and operates as an LLC. We are also a member of Pet Sitters International which gives us a network of professionals to make sure we are following best practices for the industry. Providing quality pet care is our full-time job and our goal is to have a qualified pet sitter available to you whenever the need arises.

Thank you

Marikay Altes



# EMA Monthly Report

Below are some highlights since the last meeting:

3/21- Attended Clinton Power Station quarterly meeting.

Attended monthly planning meeting for upcoming search and rescue exercise in June.

Began creating exercise plan and scenario for an exercise in July. This will include 3 fire departments and EMS. A tabletop exercise will take place in June to help prepare.

3-31- Monitored potential threat of severe weather as well as distribute up to date information and keep in touch with all first responders and storm spotters. As well as 4/4. Many conference calls were held by NWS and IMEA to discuss potential threats and timing.

4/4- Meet with CAMA (Dewitt County organization for churches) to go over how CAMA could help EMA. Warming/ Cooling centers, sheltering, volunteers were all part of the discussion. As well as what EMA could do for them.

Continue to work on and finalize the Functional Exercise that takes place at the end of April.

Continue to work with First Responders and other agencies.