

**BOOK 32****VIRGINIA:**

At a continued meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Amherst County held at the Administration Building thereof on Wednesday, the 15<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. at which the following members were present and absent:

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

PRESENT: Mr. V. Wood  
Mr. L. Parrish  
Mr. D. Kidd  
Mr. C. Adams

ABSENT: Mr. R. Vandall

Mr. Wood called the meeting to order.

**IN RE: APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On motion of Mr. Parrish and with the following vote, the Board of Supervisors approved the agenda with the addition of discussion of request from the Sheriff concerning employee sick leave arrangements as follows:

**AGENDA**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2008  
AMHERST COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
9:30 A.M.**

**Continued from Tuesday, October 7, 2008**

**9:30 a.m.**

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Approval of Agenda**
- III. Meeting with Humane Society – Operation of the Animal Shelter**
- IV. Sheriff Department employee vacation and sick leave arrangements**
- V. Adjournment**

AYE: Mr. V. Wood, Mr. L. Parrish, Mr. D. Kidd and Mr., C. Adams

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. R. Vandall

**IN RE: HUMANE SOCIETY**

Humane Society members Popie Martin and Nancy Davis met with the Board as well as shelter manager Sonya and Bart Shaw, Animal Control Supervisor and Bill Robertson, EDA Chairman

Ms. Martin presented the following proposed "press release" regarding opening of the shelter/adoption center:

**Humane Society of Amherst County to Unveil New Pet Adoption Center Saturday, Nov. 1, 2008, 1-4 p.m., at the Humane Society Building on Shelter Lane**

Amherst County, VA. – The Humane Society of Amherst County (HSAC) is happy to announce that it will hold the Grand Opening Celebration of the new Pet Adoption Center on November 1, 2008. A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Open House for the general public and media will be held between 1 and 4 p.m., at the HSAC property of Coolwell Rd.

The family-friendly event will offer fun for everyone. Activities include the following:

- A Blessing of the Animals by Father Dan Kelly from St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
- Facility Tours
- Pet Care Information
- Refreshments
- Music
- Adoption Opportunities

Housed in a brand-new building, which has been in the planning stages since 2004 and which will be shared with Amherst County Animal Care and Control, the new Pet Adoption Center boasts a number of features designed to make the adoption process simpler, faster and more successful.

These features include an interview room that allows prospective adopters to interact more fully with potential pets; grooming, bathing and veterinary exam room facilities; an outdoor romping and training area for dogs; an indoor play room for cats; state-of-the art air handling and waste removal systems; and sunlit, comfortable kennels that provide a calm environment and happy experience for the animals.

“We are so pleased and excited that this day has finally arrived,” said Nancy Davis, president of HSAC. “The new Adoption Center will enable us to do an even better job of fulfilling our mission to find loving and secure homes for Amherst County’s lost and unwanted dogs, cats and other animals. The setup will ensure that from the moment of introduction, these animals are as ready for adoption as possible.”

When they first arrive at the Adoption Center, each dog and cat will visit a local veterinarian for their spay/neuter procedure and required tests and vaccinations, ensuring they are up-to-date on all shots and heartworm and tick prevention regimens and have received a clean bill of health. As such, adoptable animals will be ready to go home and enjoy their new forever family – without interruption – as soon as the adoption process is complete.

Organized in 1974, the HSAC has become a model for its innovative efforts to dramatically increase its adoption rates. It has expanded its range of potential adoptive homes by developing relationships with shelters in other states that can successfully place HSAC animals; these shelters choose adoptable pets from the HSAC pet list on PetFinder.com and HSAC volunteers transport them to those facilitative shelters on a weekly basis. HSAC has also developed relationships with breed rescue groups and created a home fostering program for special needs animals. These resourceful solutions to the local animal overpopulation problem are enabling HSAC to successfully match an increasing number of caring owners with grateful and deserving pets.

“What’s important to understand is that animal overpopulation and neglect is a community problem” Davis said. “This Adoption Center will give us the resources we need to fully address that problem and work hand-in-hand with the community to help reduce our numbers of unwanted animals, increase adoptions and make real progress in addressing the roots of the problem.”

In 2004, the HSAC asked the County to assume responsibility for administering the animal intake and shelter portion of its services. The HSAC will lease a portion of its land to Amherst County Animal Control and building costs will be shared. The Adoption Center and Animal Shelter, while housed in the same building, will operate cooperatively but independently.

The new Adoption Center ---built on land donated by Gert Prior, a long-time friend of HSAC ---was designed by Blair Smith and Linda Jones of Dominion Seven Architects and built by C.L. Lewis Construction of Lynchburg.

With its attractive, welcoming façade and peaceful location among tall oaks and pines, the new Adoption Center is a true community success story, have been made possible by the volunteer efforts and financial contributions of community members devoted to the cause of helping animals. The Building was funded by long-term, low interest rural development loans from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which will be paid back through continuing financial donations from citizens of Amherst County and other supporters and through major fund-raising events held by HSAC.

The HSAC is governed by a volunteer board and operates largely due to the efforts of many volunteers and donors, especially the local veterinary community, who collectively are making a significant difference in assisting lost and unwanted animals in Amherst County and improving their chances for finding a loving home.

Poster

### **RIBBON CUTTING & OPEN HOUSE!**

The Humane Society of Amherst County's  
Adoption Center & Amherst County's  
Animal Care & Control Center

**"Help Celebrate Our New Facility!"**

**Saturday Nov. 1, 2008, 1-4 p.m.**

318 Shelter Lane off N. Coolwell Rd.

### **FUN FOR EVERYONE!**

- Tours • Pet Care Info
  - Blessing of the Shelter Animals
  - Refreshments
  - DJ... and More!

HSAC Amherst County Animal Care and Control

Rain or Shine. Please leave your pets at home.  
Info: 946-9410 or 946-2340, [HSofAC@cs.com](mailto:HSofAC@cs.com)

### **IN RE: WATER RESERVOIR SYSTEM**

The County Purchase Agent provided a report on the current status of design for a water reservoir system.

### **IN RE: DUMPSTER PAD AND TRUCK TURN-AROUND AREA**

Bart Shaw provided a report of planning for a dumpster pad and truck turn-around area.

### **IN RE: FLOOR TEXTURE**

The County Purchasing Agent provided a report of the status of addressing the facility floor texture and animal air returns concerns expressed by the state vet, inspector.

There was a Board consensus that the facility should not be opened for regular operations until the issues are satisfactorily address.

There was a Board consensus that approval for any animal occupation of the facility prior to the floor and vent issues being satisfied be provided in writing by the state vet, inspector.

#### **IN RE: MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT**

The County Attorney reviewed the formally adopted management agreement.

#### **IN RE: EDA CONCERNS**

Bill Robertson, EDA member, addressed concerns from the EDA perspective.

#### **IN RE: COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

The County Administrator reviewed jointly with Board, County Attorney and Humane Society a draft operational agreement between the Humane Society of Amherst County and Amherst County for the HSAC Adoption Center/Amherst Animal Care and Control Center.

There was a consensus to add a requirement for facility employees to wear slip-resistant footwear.

#### **IN RE: RECOGNITION OF DIVISION BETWEEN POUND AND SHELTER**

The County Administrator provided a report of State Vet recognition of division between Pound and Shelter.

There was a joint discussion of this issue between the Board and Humane Society.

There was a Board consensus to direct the County Administrator to formally request that the County Shelter operation be designated as a "Pound" and the Adoption Center be designated as a "Shelter".

There was an agreement between the Board and Humane Society that until such designation be obtained that the County be allowed to periodically inspect the Adoption Center area for state regulation compliance as the County will be deemed the responsible party.

The County administrator briefly addressed details of opening operations.

#### **IN RE: PERSONNEL**

The County facility staffing issues were briefly addressed. There was a consensus that prospective additional needed personnel would be solicited from applications already received.

There was a joint discussion of personnel issues involved with the continued operation of the existing facility until such time as the new facility is ready for occupation.

#### **IN RE: APPROPRIATION REQUEST FROM HUMANE SOCIETY**

The County Administrator presented a funding appropriation request by the Humane Society of up to \$4,800.00 for assistance with personnel cost for operation of the existing shelter for the months of September and October 2008.

On motion of Mr. Parrish and with the following vote, the Board of Supervisors approved the appropriation of up to \$4,800.00 as requested by the Humane Society to supplement the County's shelter operations for the months of September and October, 2008.

AYE: Mr. V. Wood, Mr. L. Parrish, Mr. D. Kidd and Mr. C. Adams

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. R. Vandall

**IN RE: TRANSFER OF EMPLOYEE LEAVE**

The County Administrator presented a request from Sheriff Ayers to allow transfer of employee sick or vacation time from active employees to individuals on extended sick leave.

There was a consensus to direct the County Administrator to send a letter to the Sheriff authorizing the exchange of unused employee vacation and sick time to a sick employee who had used all of their time.

**IN RE: ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Mr. Parrish, seconded by Mr. Kidd and with the following vote, the Board of Supervisors moved to adjourn until 6:00 p.m., October 16, 2008 at Sweet Briar, Florence Elston Inn for a joint dinner meeting with Amherst Town Council.

AYE: Mr. V. Wood, Mr. L. Parrish, Mr. D. Kidd and Mr. C. Adams

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. R. Vandall

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Mr. Vernon L. Wood, Chairman  
Amherst County Board of Supervisors

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Rodney E. Taylor, County Administrator