



Department of Public Safety
Division of Animal Services
305 25th Street W
Palmetto, FL 34221
Phone: (941) 742-5933
www.mymanatee.org

Manatee County Animal Services Advisory Board

Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2016; 5:45 p.m.
Manatee County Animal Services
305 25th St. W., Palmetto, Fla.

In attendance: Lisa Barnott, David Doyens, Jana Dunson-Martin, Rebecca Neal, Jean Peelen, Lisa Williams

Meeting was called to order at 5:49 p.m. by board chairwoman Jean Peelen. Approval of Oct. 27 minutes

Division Chief Updates: None – Chief ill

Board Discussion on Animal Abuse Registry

- Dr. Betsy Coville, DVM, gave a 10-minute presentation on the animal abuse registry ordinance in Hillsborough County.
 - It's a 1-2 punch; saving animals that are being abused and preventing violence against humans
 - It's a necessity as both animals and humans are at risk ... direct correlation between animal and child abusers
 - In domestic violence situations, there is often a dominance over pets by the abuser, which helps them control the person being abused. It also desensitizes children to animal abuse, and can make abuse become a multigenerational problem
 - Animal Services is often the first responder for families in crisis
 - There is animal abuse present in 88 percent of child abuse case households
 - Animal Abuse Registry is intended to alert public to location of offenders and provide additional scrutiny
 - Would like to take the registry statewide, eventually
- Once the registration site is created, there is no longer any cost.
- Carol Whitmore suggested that new sheriff Rick Wells may be willing to take on the registry.
- Board discussed tweaks to Hillsborough ordinance, including strengthening some of the language and including farm animals (which are excluded in the Hillsborough ordinance).
- Jean Peelen to bring back marked up ordinance at board's next meeting.

Next Meeting: Jan. 25, 2017 at 5:45 p.m. at Manatee County Animal Services

Adjournment: 7:00 p.m