JULY 31, 2018 SPECIAL MEETING

APPROVED
08/28/2018

Conference Room A– Health and Human Services Building
Lansing, Michigan – 6:00 p.m.
July 31, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Koenig called the July 31, 2018 Special Meeting of the Ingham County Board of Commissioners to order at 6:01 p.m.

Members Present at Roll Call: Koenig, Anthony, Banas, Celentino, Crenshaw, Grebner (arrived at 6:02 p.m.), Hope, Maiville, Naeyaert, Nolan, Tennis, Schafer, and Sebolt.

Members Absent: Louney

A quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Koenig asked Jared Cypher, Deputy County Controller, to lead the Board of Commissioners in the Pledge of Allegiance.

TIME FOR MEDITATION

Chairperson Koenig asked those present to remain standing for a moment of silence or prayer.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Commissioner Crenshaw moved to approve the minutes of the July 24, 2018 meeting. Commissioner Banas supported the motion.

Commissioner Maiville stated that they had not received the minutes early enough to review them and he would like more time.

Commissioner Maiville moved to table the motion. Commissioner Tennis supported the motion.

The motion to table the approval of the minutes carried unanimously. Absent: Commissioner Louney.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT

Tina Walton, Ingham County Animal Control (ICAC) volunteer, stated that she wanted to thank the Board of Commissioners for their due diligence at addressing the problems at ICAC. She further stated that she remained
a voice for Simba, her former foster kitten, and that animals at ICAC should be treated as well as someone’s pets.

Ms. Walton stated that she hoped that the community would see that the ICAC was a caring place again. She further stated that as a foster volunteer, she pledged to care for the animals.

Ms. Walton stated that God bless the ICAC staff, Animal Care Officers (ACOs), and volunteers, as well as, the Board of Commissioners.

Jim Sikanske, Michigan State University (MSU) Veterinarian, stated that he had 44 years of clinical experience and was an expert in parasites. He further stated that he was responsible for Ivermectin being approved for use in bison.

Dr. Sikanske stated that he had zoological experience also, including working for the Potter Park Zoo. He further stated that he had worked with ICAC Director John Dinon for a long time.

Dr. Sikanske stated that Mr. Dinon had a stellar career and maintained that he had done a good job at ICAC. He further stated that Mr. Dinon had asked him to come to this meeting in order to refute some of the allegations against him.

Dr. Sikanske stated that there was scientific evidence that fighting dogs were more difficult to care for. He further stated that he had brought studies that proved this to be true, which is included in the minutes as Attachment A.

Dr. Sikanske stated that there were cases where animals continued to lose weight and do badly even though they had been treated for whipworms. He further stated that whipworms were a vigorous parasite and created particularly tough cases to treat because of how they affected the digestive system.

Dr. Sikanske stated that this had been an issue while he had been the veterinarian at Potter Park Zoo with elk they had who had been infected with whipworm. He further stated that some of the cases became so bad that they had to euthanize some animals.

Dr. Sikanske stated that the fact that these animals had been stressed, and from a crowded, poor environment could also make them more difficult to treat.

Jyl Alward, concerted citizen, stated that everyone knew the facts. She further stated that she would like to thank Jamie Hillman for fighting for dogs. She further stated that she would like to thank the ACOs Caitlyn and Jodi for speaking up.

Ms. Alward stated that she wanted to thank Alani Letang, from WILX for bringing this to the public’s attention. She further stated that her main concern was animals in care and that this had gone on too long.

Ms. Alward stated that she wanted to know why, how, and what happened at the ICAC.

Connie Kapuia, ICAC former volunteer, stated that in three years, the accomplishment of the ICAC Director was that he had lost respect of the staff, the ACOs, and the community. She further stated that the ICAC had lost the support of the community and the employee turnover rate had increased.
Ms. Kapuia stated that there had been plenty of lies, poor or no record keeping, and the ICAC had refused help. She further stated that five dogs starved and 2 dogs were dead, that we know of, because of this. Ms. Kapuia stated that with the new shelter coming, they would need more staff and volunteers, but the ICAC could not even handle what they had currently. She further stated that it was time to get rid of Mr. Dinon, Assistant Director Ann Burns, and veterinarian Dr. Karen Worthington.

Ms. Kapuia stated that new leadership will rally community support that was needed to make the new shelter a success.

Beth Kaminski, Okemos resident, stated that she was wearing an “I Fight For Them, So They Don’t Have To” t-shirt as an example that the board community the support that was possible. She further stated that there was a lot of healing that needed to be done and people needed to remember that there were a lot of dogs and cats that needed help.

Ms. Kaminski stated that she wanted to stress that as ICAC moved forward there was a need for community who cared. She further stated that the new shelter was badly needed.

Ms. Kaminski stated that she was interested in the decisions made tonight and understood that it was a fine balance. She further stated that the t-shirt was an example of the community getting together and supporting animal care.

Margaret Heann, veterinary assistant Southside Animal Hospital, read a statement, which is included in the minutes as Attachment A.

Ms. Heann, provided a statement from Dr. Joyce Heideman, which is included in the minutes as Attachment B.

Susan Steinke, Okemos resident, read a statement, which is included in the minutes as Attachment C.

Charlene Hornbeck, concerned citizen, thanked the Board of Commissioners for speaking to her. She stated that people should do things for the love animals.

Ms. Hornbeck stated that pets are children and needed to be treated as such. She further stated that it was time for ICAC to clean house, and that Ms. Burns and Dr. Worthington needed to be included in that.

Ms. Hornbeck stated that Dr. Worthington had been a veterinarian for 30 years and should know better. She further stated that Dr. Worthington had taken an oath to provide good care to animals.

Ms. Hornbeck stated that she wanted to thank the Board of Commissioners for the time to speak.

Maggie Emmerson-Rich, ICAC volunteer, stated that wearing her ICAC volunteer shirt had resulted in a lot of questions in her workplace and place of worship. She further stated that she thought the ICAC needed a change of leadership to move forward.

Ms. Emmerson-Rich stated that she wanted to thank the Board of Commissioners for hearing these concerns and their hard work.
JULY 31, 2018 SPECIAL MEETING

Jamie Hillman, Save the Lansing Michigan Pit Bulls, stated that after seeing the video of Dreamvil in his last days, it was just too much. She further stated that she became an advocate since 10 years old after encountering a bait dog.

Ms. Hillman stated that to hear that Dreamvil was too aggressive for an x-ray but also was too weak to walk was horrible. She further stated that it was time to move on.

CLARIFICATION/INFORMATION PROVIDED BY COMMITTEE CHAIR

None.

CLOSED SESSION TO REVIEW INFORMATION, COMPLAINTS, AND CHARGES AGAINST THE ANIMAL CONTROL DIRECTOR AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR, AND TO CONSIDER DISCIPLINE (MCL 15.268 (a))

Commissioner Naeyaert moved, at 6:28 p.m., to move the meeting into closed session to review information, complaints, and charges against the Animal Control Director, and Deputy Director, and to consider discipline. (MCL 15.268(a)). Commissioner Grebner supported the motion.

Commissioner Hope asked if Mr. Dinon had confirmed that he was in agreement.

Mr. Dinon stated that he confirmed that he would like to move into closed session.

Commissioner Nolan asked if Ms. Burns had confirmed that she agreed with this closed session.

Chairperson Koenig stated that Ms. Burns has submitted the paperwork to retire from Ingham County on July 30, 2018.

Matt Nordfjord, County Attorney, stated that Ms. Burns had met the qualifications from the County to retire and it was effective immediately.

Commissioner Schafer asked about Dr. Worthington and if the she would be discussed in this session.

Chairperson Koenig stated that Dr. Worthington was not a part of the Controller’s report and not a part of the discussion in closed session.

The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. Absent: Commissioner Louney

Commissioner Grebner moved to return to open session at approximately 9:42 p.m. Commissioner Celentino supported the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF OPERATIONAL ISSUES AT THE INGHAM COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL AND SHELTER
JULY 31, 2018 SPECIAL MEETING

ADOPTED – JULY 31, 2018
AGENDA ITEM NO. 1

Introduced by Commissioner Grebner of the:

INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION DISMISSING JOHN DINON
AS DIRECTOR OF INGHAM COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL

RESOLUTION # 18 – 326

WHEREAS the Ingham County Board of Commissioners lacks confidence in the leadership of John Dinon in his capacity as director of Ingham County Animal Control.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the employment of John Dinon as director of the Ingham County Animal Control Department is terminated. And,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Controller is directed to negotiate terms of separation.

Commissioner Grebner moved to adopt the Resolution Dismissing John Dinon as Director of Ingham County Animal Control. Commissioner Tennis supported the motion.

Commissioner Grebner stated that he considered that the Board of Commissioners directly oversaw the ICAC Director, which led him to bring this resolution forward. He further stated that he was not concerned with exactly what was happening with animal care, although it should have been made right, or that the organizational chart was incorrect.

Commissioner Grebner stated that each County department had different needs and the way they were managed varied. He further stated that the ICAC Director was a unique position because that person needed to be able to a figure sort of like Joan of Arc and had to attract people, because the ICAC ran on donations and volunteers.

Commissioner Grebner stated that the ICAC relied on public enthusiasm which was evident when the animal control millage passed overwhelmingly. He further stated that you could see how this was a different position.

Commissioner Grebner stated that Mr. Dinon had failed in a public relations sense, which may have sounded like a minor thing but it was not, and he had failed because he was beset in a sea of troubles. He further stated that it could be that the whole world had conspired against him, but it could also be that he lost his ability be an inspiring, lovable, cuddly figure who moved people to do things, donate money, clean up dog poop, and take care of animals.

Commissioner Grebner stated that the County had other directors and they had all had their flaws. He further stated that Mr. Dinon’s flaw, which was large enough to be considered a failure, was that he had not been able to be that figure and he had lost the confidence of not only the Board of Commissioners, but also the public and the groups that should support the ICAC.
Commissioner Grebner stated that Mr. Dinon had some supporters but that was not the role he should be in, he should have a unanimous feeling of support and cuddliness toward him, he should be Joan of Arc. He further stated that public bodies almost always fired employees too late, not too soon.

Commissioner Grebner stated that looking back on disasters, almost always the action should have happened two or three years earlier. He further stated that this was not a rush to judgement or a case where the Board of Commissioners did not have all the facts, it was a smothering crisis that had gotten to the point to where the Board of Commissioners had to act.

Commissioner Crenshaw asked if this motion would have the termination happen immediately.

Commissioner Grebner stated that it was his intent for the termination to be effective with the vote.

Mr. Nordfjord stated that it would be best for it to be effective immediately.

Commissioner Crenshaw moved to amend the resolution as follows:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the employment of John Dinon as director of the Ingham County Animal Control Department is terminated, effective immediately. And,

This was considered a friendly amendment.

Commissioner SebOLT stated that when this came out in the media he had told people who contacted him to slow down and take a give everyone a chance to take a full look at this. He further stated that with all the reports they now had, it was obvious that there was a failure of leadership.

Commissioner SebOLT also stated that employees of the ICAC were afraid to come forward with their concerns which was not a good work environment for the staff and it was not suitable. He further stated that Mr. Dinon was responsible for these problems and he would support this resolution.

Commissioner Naeyaert stated that it was not an easy decision to make, to end someone’s career. She further stated that when she first heard about this report, she did not know much about the situation because she was not a member of the Law & Courts Committee.

Commissioner Naeyaert stated that this showed problems with leadership from Mr. Dinon and fractures in the animal care world, but the Board of Commissioners only had control over repairing the leadership at the ICAC.

Commissioner Naeyaert stated that this had been a frustrating and insightful meeting and this was very unfortunate.

Commissioner Schafer stated that he personally preferred a probationary plan and six-month period for review. He further stated that the ICAC needed leadership as there was a lot going on with the new shelter being built.

Commissioner Schafer stated that with the Deputy Director retiring, and perhaps changes needed with the veterinarian, perhaps this was not the best time to be without a Director.
The Clerk read back the resolution, as amended.

The motion to adopt the resolution, as amended, carried by roll call vote.  

**Yeas:** Anthony, Celentino, Crenshaw, Grebner, Hope, Maiville, Naeyaert, Sebolt, and Tennis.  

**Nays:** Banas, Koenig, Nolan, and Schafer  

**Absent:** Louney

Commissioner Crenshaw moved that the Controller’s Office be directed to forward to the Board of Veterinary Medicine the Controller’s report and the Michigan Human Society report, so that they may investigate the actions of Dr. Karen Worthington. Commissioner Naeyaert supported the motion.

Commissioner Crenshaw stated that the Board of Veterinary Medicine was the governing body for veterinarians in the State and would be best suited to investigate this issue.

Commissioner Naeyaert moved to amend the motion as follows:

That the Controller’s office be directed to forward to the Board of Veterinary Medicine the Controller’s report, and the Michigan Human Society report, **and the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) Report**, so that they may investigate the actions of Dr. Karen Worthington

This was considered a friendly amendment.

The motion, as amended, carried.  

**Yeas:** Anthony, Banas, Celentino, Crenshaw, Grebner, Hope, Koenig, Maiville, Naeyaert, Schafer, Sebolt, and Tennis.  

**Nays:** Nolan  

**Absent:** Louney

Commissioner Celentino asked if a search committee for a new ICAC Director should be formed.

Chairperson Koenig stated that Becky Bennett, Board of Commissioners Director, would begin that process.

**Commissioner Nolan stated that she would like the weights of the dogs revised and corrected on the Controller’s report. She further stated that she would like that information emailed out to the entire BOC.**

**Commissioner Nolan stated that she would like the ICAC ordinance from 2013 to be sent back through the committee process by going through the Law & Courts and County Services Committees. She further stated that she would like the Controller to follow up on the staff that was referred to in the report and share that follow up with the entire Board of Commissioners.**

Commissioner Nolan asked if there would be anything done with the ICAC Deputy Director position at this point.

Chairperson Koenig stated that there would not be anything done at this time.

Commissioner Banas stated that she had shared her concerns about this earlier and would like to give Mr. Dinon six more months to make changes in the Department before deciding to terminate him. She further stated that with the two upper management positions vacant, and questions about the veterinarian at the ICAC, she had a lot of concerns about how things would run.
Commissioner Banas asked the Controller if he could provide the Board of Commissioners a full understanding and directions about how ICAC would be moving forward.

Commissioner Anthony asked about the additional items from Commissioner Nolan’s request. She further stated that she was concerned that the item being sent in isolation would be confusing.

Commissioner Nolan stated that she wanted the report herself.

Commissioner Anthony stated that she would appreciate that information be provided as an addendum to the report.

Commissioner Sebolt moved to have the Michigan Humane Society (MHS) report and Controller’s report be forwarded to a law enforcement body to examine for potential criminal activity by the Controller. Commissioner Crenshaw supported the motion.

Commissioner Naeyaert stated that if had been a Board of Commissioner member or a member of the public responsible for the treatment of those animals, there would be a criminal investigation. She further stated that she had watched the video of the dog and it was disturbing.

Commissioner Naeyaert asked about the MDARD report.

Commissioner Tennis stated that the Board of Commissioners had learned earlier tonight that the MDARD report was coming out in a couple weeks. He further stated that he would like to wait until that report was out to refer anyone to law enforcement as the report may include those recommendations.

Clerk Byrum asked for point of clarification as to who would forward the report to law enforcement.

Commissioner Sebolt stated that the Controller would be responsible.

Chairperson Koenig asked who the Controller should forward the report to.

Commissioner Sebolt stated that he was unsure which agency would be the best to investigate this.

The motion, as amended, carried by roll call vote.  **Yeas:** Anthony, Celentino, Crenshaw, Maiville, Naeyaert, Schafer, and Sebolt.  **Nays:** Banas, Grebner, Hope, Koenig, Nolan, and Tennis  **Absent:** Louney

Commissioner Celentino stated that he wanted to comment on Commissioner Banas’ concerns. He further stated that the ICAC would be run well. He further stated that this was a big issue, but the Controller and the Law & Courts Chair could ensure that the shelter would run efficiently.

Commissioner Maiville moved to remove confidential from the Controller’s report and release it to the public. Commissioner Hope supported the motion.

Chairperson Koenig stated that the report would be available on the Board of Commissioner’s website the following morning.

The motion carried unanimously. Absent: Commissioner Louney
Commissioner Sebolt stated that there were some discussions in closed session which were tabled because it was determined that it should happen in open session. He further stated that he had many concerns about the Controller’s report, which was not thorough, and he found that disappointing.

Commissioner Grebner stated that he suggested that Commissioner Sebolt put his concerns in writing and the Controller respond in writing to the Law & Courts Committee.

Commissioner Sebolt stated that he thought there were a few others who shared similar concerns.

Commissioner Grebner stated that Commissioner Sebolt could collect the written concerns from everyone and submit them to the Law & Courts Committee.

Discussion.

Commissioner Sebolt asked for this discussion to be a topic at the upcoming Board Leadership meeting.

Commissioner Naeyaert stated that she thought this was a good idea.

Commissioner Nolan stated that they had been stalled on the Personnel Subcommittee and would welcome other members joining to further discuss employee evaluations.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Crystal Lawrence, East Lansing resident, stated that she wanted to request that the Board of Commissioners deny Ms. Burn’s request for retirement and terminate her. She further stated that that there were a lot of qualified people who could step into the Director position.

Connie Kapugia, ICAC former volunteer, stated that she would like to thank the Board of Commissioners for their actions and hoped that going forward the ICAC could start healing. She further stated that there still needed to be an examination of Dr. Worthington’s actions and thanked Commissioner Crenshaw for his motion.

Ms. Kapugia stated that there were many qualified people at the shelter able to serve as Director. She further stated that the ICAC had good staff and had been able to step into that roll before.

Ms. Kapugia stated that the ICAC volunteers were very dedicated and committed, and the community supported a new shelter and would appreciate new ICAC leadership.

Charlene Hornbeck, concerned citizen, stated that she would like to thank the Board of Commissioners and would like to have a new ICAC Director. She further stated that she would like something done about Dr. Worthington.

Ms. Hornbeck stated that she was in full agreement that Ms. Burns be fired and not allowed to retire. She further stated that she thanked everyone for listening.

Maggie Emmerson-Rich, ICAC volunteer, stated that on behalf of the constituents in Commission District 5 and her fellow ICAC volunteers, she wanted to thank the Board of Commissioners for listening to everyone. She further stated that she appreciated the work that they had done on this issue.
JULY 31, 2018 SPECIAL MEETING

Tina Walton, ICAC volunteer, stated that Simba had his justice, even though the little kitten cannot speak, tonight he had justice. She further stated that she looked forward to the new shelter and thanked the Board of Commissioners on behalf of the ICAC volunteers and staff.

COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Sebolt stated that Commissioner Grebner had written a letter endorsing a candidate for Michigan House of Representatives. He further stated that Commissioner Grebner had stated in the letter that six of the people serving with him on the Board of Commissioners were current liabilities.

Commissioner Sebolt asked Commissioner Grebner if he would like to share who the six Commissioners were, that were liabilities.

Commissioner Grebner stated that everyone was able to put together their own list.

Discussion.

Clerk Byrum stated that the Primary Election was one week away, on August 7, 2018. She further stated that she encouraged everyone to go out and vote.

Clerk Byrum stated that any Absent Voters with their ballots, should return them to the local Clerk as soon as possible. She further stated that it was possible to request Absent Voter ballots until Saturday, August 4, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

BARB BYRUM, CLERK OF THE BOARD
Biology of Whipworm Infections in Dogs

Linda S. Mansfield, VMD, PhD, Dipl. ACVIM
Albert C. and Lois E. Dehn Endowed Chair
181 Food Safety Building; 1129 Farm Lane
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824
517-884-2027

Whipworm is a common parasite of dogs. Dogs become infected when they ingest the eggs on surfaces and it takes 3 months for the worms to mature, the adult male and female worms to mate and the females worms to produce eggs that pass out in the feces. It persists in many environments because the eggs of this parasite are extremely tough and can survive both cold and hot conditions and even some disinfectants. It is very common for treated dogs to become reinfected if they are confined to an environment that has been previously contaminated.

Most infected dogs have intermittent clinical signs of diarrhea that can contain excess mucus and blood. Animals with repeated exposures to contaminated areas can develop heavy infections with more severe clinical signs and weight loss even though they are eating an adequate diet. This happens because the worms can cause some sloughing of the epithelial lining of the colon when they are present there in large numbers. The control of Trichuris infection depends on separating animals from the source of infective eggs. Despite intensive efforts this parasite can be hard to successfully treat.

The only way to detect the parasite in a live animal is by taking a sample of feces and running a fecal flotation test to detect the eggs. Unfortunately, the female worms shed eggs intermittently and so not every sample from an infected dog will have eggs. This is unusual compared to most nematode parasites, but it is a well-established fact. If whipworm is suspected it may be necessary to do several fecal flotation tests in order to detect it.

Treatment for Trichuris in dogs can be difficult especially when the level of infection is high. Adults worms are firmly embedded in the colon wall and so successful drug treatment can require a course of anthelmintic rather than a single treatment. It is recommended that treatment for T. vulpis be done 3 times at monthly intervals. Most parasitologists consider that developing larval stages of the worms are more resistant to anthelmintic. Because it takes three months for larvae to mature to adults, it requires a repeat treatment to kill the adults that form from the larvae that were resistant to the first treatment. By using 3 treatments spaced at monthly intervals it is more likely that all Trichuris present will eventually be killed. Preferred drugs for treating T. vulpis in dogs are Fenbendazole (Panacur), milbemycin oxime (Interceptor or Sentinel), febantel (with praziquantel and pyrantel pamoate in Drontal Plus), and moxidectin (with imidacloprid in Advantage Multi).

References
Georgi's Parasitology for Veterinarians, 10th Edition
Dwight D. Bowman, Editor
W.B. Saunders. Philadelphia, PA (Elsevier)
Biology of Whipworm infections in Dogs

Linda S. Mansfield, VMD, PhD, Dipl. ACVM
Albert C. and Lois E. Dehn Endowed Chair
181 Food Safety Building; 1129 Farm Lane
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824
517-884-2027

Whipworm is a common parasite of dogs. Dogs become infected when they ingest the eggs on surfaces and it takes 3 months for the worms to mature, the adult male and female worms to mate and the females worms to produce eggs that pass out in the feces. It persists in many environments because the eggs of this parasite are extremely tough and can survive both cold and hot conditions and even some disinfectants. It is very common for treated dogs to become reinfected if they are confined to an environment that has been previously contaminated.

Most infected dogs have intermittent clinical signs of diarrhea that can contain excess mucus and blood. Animals with repeated exposures to contaminated areas can develop heavy infections with more severe clinical signs and weight loss even though they are eating an adequate diet. This happens because the worms can cause some sloughing of the epithelial lining of the colon when they are present there in large numbers. The control of Trichuris infection depends on separating animals from the source of infective eggs. Despite intensive efforts this parasite can be hard to successfully treat.

The only way to detect the parasite in a live animal is by taking a sample of feces and running a fecal flotation test to detect the eggs. Unfortunately, the female worms shed eggs intermittently and so not every sample from an infected dog will have eggs. This is unusual compared to most nematode parasites, but it is a well-established fact. If whipworm is suspected it may be necessary to do several fecal flotation tests in order to detect it.

Treatment for Trichuris in dogs can be difficult especially when the level of infection is high. Adults worms are firmly embedded in the colon wall and so successful drug treatment can require a course of anthelmintic rather than a single treatment. It is recommended that treatment for T. vulpis be done 3 times at monthly intervals. Most parasitologists consider that developing larval stages of the worms are more resistant to anthelmintic. Because it takes three months for larvae to mature to adults, it requires a repeat treatment to kill the adults that form from the larvae that were resistant to the first treatment. By using 3 treatments spaced at monthly intervals it is more likely that all Trichuris present will eventually be killed. Preferred drugs for treating T. vulpis in dogs are Fenbendazole (Panacur), milbemycin oxime (Interceptor or Sentinel), febantel (with praziquantel and pyrantel pamoate in Drontal Plus), and moxidectin (with imidacloprid in Advantage Multi).

References
Georgi's Parasitology for Veterinarians, 10th Edition
Dwight D. Bowman, Editor
W.B. Saunders, Philadelphia, PA (Elsevier)
Are pit bulls different? behavioral evaluation within a rehabilitation program of ex-fighting dogs

Alexa Casara, 2 Laura Mareszczik, Mariaporte Albercini
3

Flunk Munico

DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.web.2008.12.003

Abstract

Key words:

 pit bull, temperament test, aggressiveness

Although pit bulls have been considered a potentially dangerous breed and thus are often a subject of legal restrictions, very few studies have been carried out to define their behavioral characteristics. The current project was aimed at comparing pit bull's behavioral responses to those of a control group on a series of tests carried out in 2 shelters.

The first aim of the study was to outline a complete ethogram and sensitive evaluation scales, paying particular attention to aggressive behavior. These were then used to evaluate the behavioral responses of pit bulls (a subgroup consisting of the pit bull dogs) compared to controls in a series of tests (Von der Borch et al., 1991). The tests focused on the dogs' responses to 3 categories of social partners: an unfamiliar person, a doll, and an unfamiliar adult male dog. Behavioral categories considered were sociability, fear, aggressiveness, and frustration (the latter only in the unfamiliar dog test). A total of 48 dogs were tested: 28 pit bulls and 26 mixed-breed and purebred dogs. (both groups: 10 females, 17 males, age range 2–9 years).

A 3-way analysis of variance ANOVA was used to assess the effects of breed, sex, and shelter. In the unfamiliar person test, pit bulls did not differ significantly from controls in any of the variables measured. In the doll test, pit bulls, regardless of sex and shelter, showed significantly higher levels of aggressiveness compared to controls (P < 0.05). Forty-four percent of pit bulls manifested aggressive behavior obtained a score of 4 (on a 0 to 4 point scale), whereas none of the controls did. The highest score, no differences between groups emerged in terms of sociability and fear toward the doll. In the unfamiliar dog test, male pit bulls were significantly less sociable (P < 0.01) than all other groups (female pit bulls, male and female controls), whereas the male controls were the most sociable toward the unfamiliar dog. Pit bulls as a breed were also significantly more aggressive than controls (P < 0.01), with mean scores of 2.89 compared to 1.25 for controls, and showed significantly (P < 0.01) higher levels of frustration.

Male pit bulls in this sample were significantly less sociable and more aggressive compared to all other groups in 2 of the 3 tests considered. This is in partial contrast with the description of the breed as aggressive toward conspecifics, but sociable and nonaggressive toward people.
Statement for the Ingham County Board of Commissioners

July 31, 2018

My name is Margaret Haenn and I am a resident of Clinton County. I am a 1999 graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY, and a combat veteran. Upon my return from Iraq in 2005, I moved to Michigan in order to pursue a career in veterinary medicine. I worked in two animal shelters in Calhoun County in various capacities up to and including Animal Care Director of one and Operations Manager of the other. While working in Calhoun County, I completed various animal welfare courses and trainings. The two I would like to mention are the two-day Shelter Operation School and the two-day Shelter Operation School for Managers, both offered by the American Humane Association. I left Michigan in January 2011 but returned in July 2017 in order to continue my pursuit of a career in veterinary medicine. I am now a member of the Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine’s Class of 2022. Currently, I am employed as a veterinary assistant at Southside Animal Hospital in Lansing, and I am the one who took the photos of the dogs we now know as Skully and Jonah on March 26, 2018.

I was appalled at the condition of these dogs, and I am even more appalled now knowing they were in the care of people who should know better. According to Ingham County’s website, “Ingham County has zero tolerance for animal cruelty and neglect.” There are no excuses for the condition of these animals when protecting animals from neglect and abuse is the role of Ingham County Animal Control. Leadership begins at the top, and regardless of the myriad of excuses provided by the Animal Control Director regarding this situation, he needs to be held accountable. It is clear to me after listening to the statements of former employees, current employees, and concerned citizens at last week’s Board of Commissioner’s meeting that Ingham County Animal Control is long overdue for a culture change. The most effective way to effect change in an organization is to change its leadership. Show the citizens of Ingham County that Ingham County does indeed have ZERO tolerance for animal neglect and cruelty by immediately replacing the leadership of Ingham County Animal Control. Thank you.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Margaret Haenn
To whom it may concern,

My name is Joyce Heideman and I am the outside veterinarian that examined the 2 animals known as Skully and Jonas for ICAC. I work on Tuesday's until after 7:00 pm so I will likely not be able to make it to the meeting for public comment.

I do want to provide some information and a statement in regards to this meeting. Please find attached the examination findings and conclusions for the 2 dogs that I saw at my clinic from ICAC, as well as some of the relevant pictures of those cases. If you need more information or more pictures, please feel free to ask me.

As I have been following the commissioner's hearings on this case and the media reports, it has become apparent that there are multiple versions of the same situations. I want to start by stating the facts as I know to be true:

- On, March 26, 2018, Asst director Anne Burns from ICAC talked to my office manager, Teresa Marhofer and asked if I could do an abuse/neglect exam on 2 animals from the shelter. We agreed and ACO Kaitlin Budzinski brought the animals down.
- I completed my examination on 3-26, 2018 which included multiple pictures, and wrote up my findings. My findings indicated that neglect was suspected. The pets stayed overnight and the report, pictures and pets were given to Officer Budzinski the following day.
- On approximately April 7th, I was informed that the animal ID numbers were incorrect by ACO Kaitlyn Budzinski and a tick panel was requested to be performed on these 2 pets. The dogs were brought to the clinic just for a quick blood draw. The correct ID's were added to our records but, because the initial report was already written and the pictures had the original case numbers on them, these were not changed in the report and record. The tick panel is attached along with the recommendations that were sent to ICAC. To my knowledge there was no follow up.
- It was after the blood draw on April 7th that we were notified that these pets were being fostered by someone that worked for ICAC and that was why they needed the additional information.
- In the end of May (sorry I do not have the exact dates) I was contacted again by Anne Burns and told that Michigan Humane society was investigating the case of these 2 animals and wanted to interview me on my findings.
- I met with 2 agents from Michigan Humane and gave them my notes, pictures and ran through the cases with them.
- That was the last I heard from Michigan Humane society and ICAC regarding this case. I was never reached out to asking for clarification or recommendations on my findings by director Dinnen.
- I heard nothing more regarding these cases until 6-27-2018, when Alani from channel 10 news called my office looking for me to comment on these cases. I was out of the office that day and did not hear about this until 6-29-2018 when I saw channel 10 taking pictures of my building. At this time, my office manager told me that Alani had called asking for information on the dogs we saw in March. Since I assumed that the information could still be used for trial and was not aware that the case was made public by the FOIA request, I had my office manager call ICAC for information. According to my office manager, Anne Burns was out of the office and John
Dinnon took the call. He indicated to her that this was about the 2 dogs that we saw in March and that Anne should have talked to him before sending the animals to me. He also indicated that I should have been informed that these dogs belonged to ICAC and were staying at ICAC. He also indicated that this was simply a whipworm infestation and should not have gone any further.

- This was the first time I was told that these dogs were staying at ICAC.
- I called Alani from News 10 just to follow up but declined an interview. She was the one that told me that the information about these cases came from a FOIA release.

Statement:

I am deeply concerned by what has been happening surrounding ICAC, and the administration there. For over 10 years, I have worked with ICAC in multiple capacities, including doing 100s of neglect and abuse examinations. I made it a priority to advance my knowledge of forensic veterinary medicine, when I first began working with them in this capacity. My examination procedures, and the conclusions that arise from them are a result of advanced instruction in forensic veterinary medicine. I stand by my findings and the conclusions I reached from these findings. My conclusions are based on all of the information taken together and not one or 2 pieces. Certainly, I cannot prove that what I classified as possibly a paint chip in the gums of the dogs was actually a paint chip but as you can see from the pictures, it does not look like a piece of a toy or anything else like that. Similarly, I know that whipworms can in fact cause a dog to become thin if they are not treated appropriately. However, it will not cause rub sores, swelling and pain in the hocks or inedible debris in the colon. And, it does beg the question as to why the pets were not treated appropriately before they became "emaciated" and "severely emaciated" on the Purina 9 point body condition score. Whip worms do not account for the horrible smell from these animals, either and that is hard to document in pictures. In all forensic veterinary courses, lack of appropriate veterinary treatment is considered neglect.

Please know that I do not wish to see the demise or destruction of ICAC. In fact, I want nothing more than a strong vibrant ICAC that is not tainted by mistrust and scandal. I want a strong vibrant ICAC where:

- Where animals are not simply warehoused after a seizure or surrender.
- Where animals are treated compassionately and appropriately based on medical needs and not dismissed based on breed or where they came from.
- Where directors, assistant directors and veterinarians reach out to other shelters, humane societies or outside veterinarians for the betterment of the animals in their care.
- Where volunteers are listened to and believed when they bring concerns about the animals to the director, veterinarian or assistant director.
- Where assistant directors are applauded when their concerns about certain animals cause them to reach out to outside veterinarians, rather than being maligned or belittled for their actions.
- Where an outside veterinarian’s report of neglect in March is followed up on immediately rather than wait until a media frenzy forces the issue.
- Where reports of wrong doing are promptly followed by appropriate corrective measures rather than excuses and inaccuracies meant to muddy the water.
Where directors and assistant directors have enough respect for the outside veterinarians working with them that they inform them of FOIA proceedings that involve their findings, before they are contacted by the news media.

Where sound preventive programs such as routine quarterly worming, is employed to keep the animals healthy, rather than using whipworm infestation as an excuse for emaciation. This should also include heartworm prevention and flea tick control so that expensive tick panels are less likely to be needed later.

Where accurate record keeping allows directors and assistant directors to know exactly how many animals were collected in a seizure so that this is still not in question 9 months later.

Where ACOs, staff and volunteers feel they can speak up about problems without fear of retaliation from the top.

Where findings of neglect from an outside veterinarian are treated with as much deference and respect when it involves ICAC as it was for the 100s of other cases that the same veterinarian has examined over the past 10 years, many of whom have been prosecuted in court. Dismantling and trying to discredit each and every finding from this veterinarian does not serve the overall purpose of ICAC.

Where ICAC's reputation is one of caring about all animals in their care.

Where the director, assistant director and veterinarian take a hands on approach in making sure all animals are healthy and well cared for. Where animals are bathed and groomed when needed so that they do not sit in fecal material or develop a severe “smell”.

In closing, it is sad and disturbing that it has come to this. There are many places along the way where the current situation could have been avoided by adhering to some basic principles as outlined above. It is easy to blame the media or the FOIA release for this situation but that only brought light to the problem. The problem would still have existed “under a bushel”, so to speak. If our goal is a strong, vibrant ICAC that commands respect and instills trust, I think it is clear that there needs to be a change.

Sincerely,

Joyce A Heldeman DVM
Southside Animal Hospital
5134 S ML King Jr Blvd
Lansing, Mich, 48911
517-882-6614
ICAC case # 34961

History signalment:

Presented from Animal control 3-26. Male, tan, Red nosed, pitbull type breed approximately 1 year old.

Physical findings:

BCS: 1/9 (1/5), severely emaciated with no appreciable fat covering and moderate muscle loss over torso and hips. Ribs and ischium are easily seen and palpated.

Numerous wounds of different stages of healing are seen over all four legs. Some appear to be old healing punctures where as others appear to be pressure sores.

Infection between toes is seen on right rear and right front paws.

Fecal soiling on sides, rear legs and perianal region.

Foreign material that looks like paint or plastic is stuck in gums along teeth and grass and bark are seen in stool sample

Lab samples and PE sheet attached

Summary and conclusion:

This dog is extremely emaciated and due to muscle mass loss appears to have been this way for a while. In addition, the foreign material in the gums and plant material in the stool suggest the dog has been polyphagic and looking for edible material. This dog's skin and coat suggest that he has not been cared for. Multiple wounds, pressure sores and fecal staining suggest neglect. The pododermatitis or infection on the paws, suggest this pet is kept in unsanitary conditions. In summary, this pet has been neglected and shows both emaciation and lack of normal care.

Pictures of this case are attached

Joyce A Heideman DVM
ICAC case # 34960

History signalment:

Presented from Animal Control 3-26. Female, tan, black nosed pitbull type breed approximately 1 year old.

Physical findings:

BCS: 2/9 (1/5), emaciated with little appreciable fat covering and mild muscle loss over torso and hips. Ribs and ischium are easily seen and palpated.

Penetrating puncture type wound on right nostril appears fairly fresh. Other older wounds are seen on the left side of the face and muzzle in various stages of healing. Old scars and wounds on legs and left hock is swollen. Dog has pododermatitis (infection between toes) on 3 of 4 paws and a almond size growth/mass between the toes on right front paw.

Nails on both back paws appear to have been recently cut back beyond quick. One of the nails on left rear has blood at the surface and that paw seems painful to dog.

Coat is dirty with fecal stains on sides, legs and perianal region.

Stool sample contains a large amount of bark and plant material.

Lab samples and PE sheet attached

Summary and conclusion

This dog is extremely emaciated and due to muscle mass loss appears to have been this way for a while. In addition, the plant material in the stool suggests the dog has been polyphagic and looking for edible material. This dog’s skin and coat suggest that she has not been cared for. Multiple wounds, pressure sores and fecal staining suggest neglect. The pododermatitis or infection on the paws, suggest this pet is kept in unsanitary conditions. This may also account for the mass between the toes. This dog does show that she is in pain on her left rear leg. This may either be secondary to the nails being trimmed too short or an injury to her hock that has left it swollen. In summary, this pet has been neglected and shows both emaciation and lack of normal care. She also has injuries that are of questionable origin and have not been treated.

Pictures of this case are attached

Joyce A Heideman DVM
**Client:** Southside Benson Animal Hosp  
5134 S. Martin L. King Blvd.  
Lansing, MI 48910  

**Owner:** Animal, Control  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Procedure</th>
<th>Specimen</th>
<th>Titer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/12/2018</td>
<td>2:34:00 PM</td>
<td>Tick Screen IFA Specimen</td>
<td>Serum</td>
<td>&lt;40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/12/2018</td>
<td>2:34:00 PM</td>
<td>Babesia canis IFA Titer</td>
<td>&lt;40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/12/2018</td>
<td>2:34:00 PM</td>
<td>B. burgdorferi IFA Titer</td>
<td>640</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/12/2018</td>
<td>2:34:00 PM</td>
<td>Anaplasma phagocytophilum IFA Titer</td>
<td>&lt;40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/12/2018</td>
<td>2:34:00 PM</td>
<td>Ehrlichia canis IFA Titer</td>
<td>&lt;40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/12/2018</td>
<td>2:34:00 PM</td>
<td>R. rickettsii IFA Titer</td>
<td>&lt;40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**4/07/2018 14:42:00** **Tick Screen IFA Interp**  

*Bebeas canis, Ehrlichia canis and Rickettsia rickettsii IFA:*  
A titer of less than 40 is considered negative for antibodies.  
A titer of 40 is inconclusive for antibodies. A second (convalescent) sample in 3-4 weeks is recommended.  
A titer of 60 or greater is considered positive for antibodies.  

*Anaplasma phagocytophilum IFA:*  
A titer of less than 80 is considered negative for antibodies against A. phagocytophilum.  
A titer of 80 is inconclusive for antibodies against A. phagocytophilum. A (second) convalescent sample in 3-4 weeks is recommended.  
A titer of 160 or greater is considered positive for antibodies against A. phagocytophilum.  

* Babesia burgdorferi IFA:*  
A titer less than 160 is considered negative for circulating antibodies.  
A titer of 160 - 640 is a low to moderate titer. The animal may be recently infected or infected with cross-reacting spirochetes. A (second) convalescent sample in 3-4 weeks is recommended.  
A titer of 1280 or greater is highly, and may indicate a recent infection. Cross-reaction with other spirochetes is less likely.  

L = Low Result; H = High Result; @ = Critical Result; ^ = Corrected Result; ~ = Interpretive Data; # = Result Footnote  

**Print Date/Time:** 4/12/2018 3:32 PM  
**Page 1 of 1**
### General Microbiology

#### Serology

**Collected Date/Time:** 04/07/2018 14:43:00

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure</th>
<th>04/07/2018 14:43:00</th>
<th>04/07/2018 14:43:00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tick Screen IFA, Borrelia</td>
<td>Strange</td>
<td>Strange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Babesia canis IFA Titer</td>
<td>&lt;30</td>
<td>&lt;30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. burgdorferi IFA Titer</td>
<td>&lt;160</td>
<td>&lt;160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anaplasma phagocytophilum IFA Titer</td>
<td>&lt;30</td>
<td>&lt;30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ehrlichia canis IFA Titer</td>
<td>&lt;30</td>
<td>&lt;30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R. rickettsi IFA Titer</td>
<td>&lt;30</td>
<td>&lt;30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tick: Babesia canis IFA Titer</td>
<td>Babesia</td>
<td>Babesia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**04/07/2018 14:43:00 Tick Screen IFA Notes**

Babesia canis, Ehrlichia canis, and Babesia rickettsii IFA:
- A titer of less than 40 is considered negative for antibodies.
- A titer of 30 is indicative for antibodies. A second (convalescent) sample in 3-4 weeks is recommended.
- A titer of 60 or greater is considered positive for antibodies.

Anaplasma phagocytophilum IFA:
- A titer of less than 30 is considered negative for antibodies against A. phagocytophilum.
- A titer of 30 is indicative for antibodies against A. phagocytophilum. A (second) convalescent sample in 3-4 weeks is recommended.
- A titer of 60 or greater is considered positive for antibodies against A. phagocytophilum.

Borrelia burgdorferi IFA:
- A titer less than 160 is considered negative for antibodies.
- A titer of 160-640 is a low to moderate titer. The animal may be recently infected or reinfected with cross-reacting spirochetes. A (second) convalescent sample in 3-4 weeks is recommended.
- A titer of 1280 or greater is fairly high and may indicate a recent infection. Cross-reacting with other spirochetes is less likely.

L = Low Result; H = High Result; C = Critical Result; R = Convalescent Result; I = Interpretive Date; R = Result Footnote
Public Comment at the Special Session of the Board of Commissioners

July 31st, 2018

By Susan Steinke, Okemos

Thank you for the opportunity to address you today and for your calling a special meeting of the Board to address the concerns about Ingham County Animal Control and Shelter. I am hopeful for an outcome which reflects the greater community’s philosophy about our companion animals.

Before I start, I want to make sure I say thank you to the brave staff person who took the video of Dreamvil and sent it to the media. I trust the Board and County Administration won’t waste a single second trying to find out who did leak it and punishing them. That person is a hero and any persecution of them would further compound the tragedy before us.

I define a good outcome as one which immediately removes the Director, Deputy Director, and Veterinarian from their positions. If the argument to remove them because of poor care is not enough to persuade all of you, their apparently poor stewardship of the resources which they are provided and lack of operational ability should be persuasive. There was an inordinate amount of time spent by leadership discussing how NOT to help Dreamvil which could have been spent actually doing something FOR him. As someone who works routinely with feral and scared cats, I can attest to the many ways to get a diagnosis and treatment for an animal who otherwise appears difficult to treat. Certainly, Dreamvil could not have been difficult to handle in his final days.

The Controller and his office are just as complicit in what happened with these dogs as the Director, Deputy, and Veterinarian. They have the same “can’t do” attitude as the leadership at ICAC. They have been approached more than once by advocates and Commissioners and deflected requests for action.

For example, they spent significant time speaking with other Commissioners and the county attorney about the best way to make sure the ICAC Advisory Board understood “their place” and role. When citizens look to the Advisory Board as if they should have done something to protect the Shelter residents, they should know that they are doing exactly what Commissioner Tennis who is on the Advisory Board, other Commissioners, and the leadership of ICAC have told them to do. The resources spent bringing in the attorney and others feel as if they could have been better utilized.

I have included recommendations in my public comments.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Frame</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Resources Needed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Immediate</td>
<td>Remove the current Director, Deputy Director, and veterinarian from ICACAS permanently.</td>
<td>Courage (which trust the Commissioners have)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immediate</td>
<td>Find an interim director who is not from the current staff.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immediate</td>
<td>Have exams performed to get baselines of each animal’s health status – including those in foster – including a chart review.</td>
<td>Recruit area vets to handle a small group of animals each.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immediate</td>
<td>Appoint an oversight committee to assist the Board of Commissioners in navigating through the changes that are needed at ICACAS.</td>
<td>Include Jamie Hillman and Christy Lawrence as well as other advocates/volunteers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As soon as possible and ongoing</td>
<td>Review the actions of the Controller’s Office and Human Resources in the oversight they have provided of this agency and the capacity/will of the Controller to provide effective, transparent, and accountable monitoring of this agency.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As soon as possible and ongoing</td>
<td>Develop a checklist of what should be included in every animal’s record and review all records of animals housed at ICAC from the past year. If a full review is impossible, determine a statistically significant sample including current residents of the Shelter, those in foster care, and ones with a final disposition.</td>
<td>Ask for assistance from the recommended oversight committee.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>