

Marshall County Fiscal Court
December 2, 2013

The Marshall County Fiscal Court met at 8:30 a.m. in special session on Monday, December 2, 2013 in the Joe Williams Fiscal Courtroom, Marshall County Courthouse, Benton, Kentucky. All duly elected Commissioners: Bob Gold, Terry Anderson & Misti Drew; County Attorney Jeff Edwards and Assistant County Attorney Jason Darnall were present. Mike Miller, County Judge/Executive presided.

Judge Miller called the meeting to order and informed that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the proposed Animal Control Ordinance and other issues related to animal control.

Jason Darnall informed that the last time he met with the Marty Johnson, City Attorney for Benton and Greg Northcutt, City Attorney for Calvert City, discussion was held about what needed to be in the Ordinance, specifics such as violations, enforcement and a mechanism in place for enforcement.

Judge Miller has checked with other Judge/Executive's about the numbers of animals that go through their shelters and also the salaries paid to the Animal Control Officers. The majority of the shelters do not have the volume of animals that Marshall County's Shelter does on a monthly basis and the range of salaries varies greatly.

Judge Miller asked if the attorneys have agreed on what needs to be in the Ordinance. Mr. Darnall suggested that the county come up with something agreeable and let the individual city councils review it.

Com. Drew asked if there is a way to enforce the laws that are already on the books. Jeff Edwards said that would require an enforcement board. Discussion was held about possible ways to enforce the laws without county-wide zoning. The City of Benton has an animal Ordinance, but it is not enforced.

Discussion was held about micro-chipping all the dogs that come through the shelter, but no formal action was taken.

Com. Drew asked about picking up feral cats, having them spayed or neutered and taken back to the place they were picked up from, but no formal action was taken.

Judge Miller asked about placing a moratorium on picking up cats for a two or three month period, which would help with over population at the shelter as well as keeping the chance of disease from unvaccinated cats coming into the shelter. A motion was made by Com. Drew and seconded by Com. Anderson to stop picking up cats for a two month period. However, if a cat or kitten is brought into the shelter, they will be accepted. All voted aye. Motion carried. Judge Miller asked Wendy Baxter to distribute a press release to that effect.

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Discussion was held about increasing the salaries of the Animal Control Officers.
No formal action was taken.

A motion was made by Com. Gold and seconded by Com. Anderson to adjourn.
All voted aye. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by:

Melonie Chambers
Fiscal Court Clerk