

Garland County
Public Health, Welfare & Safety Committee Meeting

Minutes

January 22, 2018

Members Present: Chairman Griffin, Vice Chairman Braziel, Justice McKee, Reagan, Raney, and Young

Members Absent: Justice Anderson

Also present: Citizens, Elected Officials, Staff, and Media

Chairman Griffin called the meeting to order and introduced Garland County resident, Jeremy Brown. Mr. Brown discussed a problem he is having with a neighbor that is organizing concerts at Coles Off-Road Park in Mountain Pine. The concerts are going past the designated time of 10:00 PM, which is causing a problem for the neighbors due to the loud noise. The neighbors also have a concern about the mud that is being spread over the roadway when people attending the concerts are leaving. Another Garland County resident, Larry Taylor also spoke about how disturbing the loud noise can be. Sheriff McCormick said the organizer needs to be cited when this occurs. Justice Mahoney stated that the last time this happened; the Piney Fire Department had to wash the mud off the roads. He also stated that the Highway Department and ADEQ could be contacted to help control the situation. Sheriff McCormick suggested looking into a nuisance abatement and contacting the county attorney about the ensuing problem.

Chairman Griffin introduced the discussion about a spay and neuter program provided by the county. Judge Davis asked for suggestions on how to set up the program, appropriate enough funds to support it, and handle the process. Dr. Zepecki, a Hot Springs Village veterinarian, stated that he charges \$30.00 to neuter a male cat, \$40.00 to spay female cats, and \$50.00 for dogs unless the dog is very large. He also stated that a countywide voucher system would work well. Dr. Zepecki stated that a notice should be put in the paper stating that the vouchers were available and where they can be picked up. Judge Davis stated that these would be distributed by the Sheriff's Office, and proof of residency would be needed to pick up a voucher. Dr. Zepecki stated that a method of identifying animals also needed to be put in place. He stated animal microchips are \$15.00 and that this could be a requirement to help Animal Control officers find owners. Judge Davis suggested that the vouchers be distributed, one per resident, per year. He also recommended that \$25,000.00 be appropriated every six months to fund the program. Justice McKee suggested that residents fill out a voluntary survey when the vouchers are picked up to get some countywide statistics. Chairman Griffin gave some information from the Animal Welfare League of Hot Springs Village regarding spays, neuters, rabies shots, and adoptions of cats and dogs from that facility. Justice McKee made a motion to recommend to the Finance Committee that they appropriate \$25,000.00 out of the Animal Voluntary Tax Fund every six months for a \$45.00 voucher to be used for the spay and neuter program. The voucher will be good at any licensed veterinarian in Garland County that is willing to participate in the program and will be good for six months, seconded by Justice Braziel. Judge Davis stated that a \$5.00 rabies shot needed to be added to the voucher requirement. Justice McKee amended his motion to make the voucher \$50.00. With no further discussion, the motion was approved without opposition.

A motion was made by Justice Raney to adjourn, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lanie Martin", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lanie Martin

Garland County Finance Director