REVISED REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

PUBLIC HEARING

March 19, 2013

The Honorable,
The Board of Commissioners of Cook County

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chairman Suffredin, Vice Chairman Fritchey, Commissioners Collins, Daley, Gainer, Gorman, Murphy, Reyes, Schneider, Silvestri, Sims and Steele (12)

Absent: Commissioners Beavers, Butler, Gorman, Goslin and Tobolski (5)

Also Present: Dr. Donna Alexander – Administrator, Cook County Animal Control; Stanley D. Gehrt – Associate Professor, Ohio State University School of Environment and Natural Resources, College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences; David De Funiak – Executive Director, Tree House Humane Society; Rochelle Michalek – Executive Director, PAWS Chicago

Court Reporter: Anthony W. Lisanti, C.S.R

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Your Committee on Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County met pursuant to notice on Tuesday, March 19, 2013 at the hour of 11:30 A.M. for a public hearing in the Board Room, Room 569, County Building, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois.

Your Committee has considered the following item and, upon adoption of this report, the recommendation is as follows:

321831 REQUESTING A HEARING OF THE LEGISLATION AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS FERAL CAT MANAGEMENT (PROPOSED RESOLUTION). Submitting a Proposed Resolution sponsored by Larry Suffredin, County Commissioner.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A HEARING OF THE LEGISLATION AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS FERAL CAT MANAGEMENT

WHEREAS, it is estimated that more than one million feral cats live in Cook County, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, feral cats have a deleterious impact on the environment, as they are introduced predators who prey upon species native to Cook County; and

WHEREAS, in response to the influx of feral cats, various measures have been introduced within Cook County to stem the cats' population; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, the Cook County Board of Commissioners adopted the Managed Care of Feral Cats Ordinance, Section 10-95 *et. al.* of the Cook County Code, which permitted the establishment of feral cat colonies within Cook County and allowed the Department of Animal and Rabies Control ("the Department") to humanely trap feral cats in order to protect the public safety and health; and

WHEREAS, the Department has actively been enforcing the ordinance and working with a variety of governmental bodies and agencies to track the effectiveness of their efforts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby request that a public hearing of the Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee be convened to discuss the managed care of Cook County's feral cat populations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Dr. Donna Alexander, Administrator of the Department of Animal and Rabies Control, appear before the Committee and be prepared to update the Committee on the Department's activities and the effect of those activities on the feral cat population.

***Referred to the Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee on 02-05-13.**

Stanley D. Gehrt, Associate Professor, Ohio State University School of Environment and Natural Resources, College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, delivered a slide presentation. (Attachment #1)

David De Funiak, Executive Director, Tree House Humane Society and Rochelle Michalek, Executive Director, PAWS Chicago, delivered a slide presentation. (Attachment #2)

Chairman Suffredin asked the Secretary to the Board to call upon the registered public speakers, in accordance with Cook County Code, Sec. 2-107(dd).

1. Louise Clemency – Director of Chicago Region, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2. Donnie Dann – Chicago Wilderness
3. Janine A. Dust – Cat Caretaker
4. Collette Walker – Board Member and Secretary – Triple R Pets
5. George Blakemore – Concerned Citizen
6. Ann-Marie Shapiro – Concerned Citizen
7. Judy Pollock – Audubon Society, Chicago Region
8. Maureen Headington – Concerned Citizen
9. Mary Ann Paskuly – Concerned Citizen
10. Valerie Chalcraft – Concerned Citizen
11. Robert Morrison – Fetal Feline Project
12. Ruth Hooper – Foster, Triple R Pets
13. Bruno Passigatti – Concerned Citizen
14. Renea Burman – Spay Neuter Illinois Pets
15. Jill Niland – Past President, Chicago Ornithological Society
16. Thomas Hay Bauer – Concerned Citizen
17. Jenny Schlueter – Director of Development, Community
18. Nau Jhaj – Attorney at Law
19. Elvia Rodriguez – Concerned Citizen
20. Leslie Summer – Concerned Citizen
21. Jodie Wiederkehr – Concerned Citizen
22. Ellen Miles – Catvando
23. Che Nadel – Hyde Park Cats

Commissioner Daley, seconded by Commissioner Murphy, moved the Approval of Communication No. 321831. The motion carried.

Commissioner Silvestri moved to Adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Daley. The motion carried and the meeting was Adjourned.

YOUR COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING ACTION WITH REGARD TO THE MATTER NAMED HEREIN:

Communication Number 321831 ~~Receive and File~~ Approved

Respectfully submitted,

Committee on Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations

Larry Suffredin, Chairman

Attest:

Matthew B. DeLeon, Secretary

*A video recording of this meeting is available on the Office of the Secretary to the Board's website on the Video Page at http://blog.cookcountyil.gov/secretarytotheboard/county-board-proceedings/county-board-video-and-audio/